

THE CHEMIST & DRUGGIST

COLONIAL ISSUE

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THOUSANDS OF EMIGRANTS

are leaving this country annually for North and South America. These pioneers carry with them the Home ideals and the Home tastes, and they expect to get in their new homes the medicines, the perfumes, the toilet articles, and the proprietaries they have been accustomed to. Traders in Canada, the United States, Mexico, the Central American States, South America, and the West Indies are quite alive to this demand, and are eager to purchase for resale. In order to assist buyers in the countries named, the

NEW WORLD ISSUE

of THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST has been specially designed. The publication date this year is May 24, and the Issue will contain a report of the statutory meeting of the Pharmaceutical Society, which is held in the same week. It will be an excellent Issue for advertising purposes, and all particulars in that regard will be obtained from the Publisher, THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST, 42 Cannon Street, London, E.C.

SUMMARY.

The more notable items only are dealt with.

Mr. William Kirkby discusses the origin of Friar's balsam (p. 149).

Further information about the new American tariff is given on p. 149.

Portraits of the ten candidates for seven seats in the Pharmaceutical Council are given on p. 111.

One of the first poison inquests after the scheduling of veronal was a suicide with the poison (p. 136).

We award prizes to Colonial subscribers who have taken part in our *Diary* postcard competition (p. 122).

We begin a series of "Experiences" of Insurance dispensing to which we invite contributions (p. 132).

We describe a considerable number of novelties which chemists should find to be profitable stock (p. 129).

We protest against remarks about the patent-medicine inquiry made by Mr. Lloyd George in his Budget speech (p. 114).

At the meeting of the North British Branch of the Pharmaceutical Society last week Insurance business chiefly was discussed (p. 110).

The Royal Colonial Institute and Earl Grey, its new President, form a feature in this Colonial Issue. The article begins on p. 123.

The British Medical Association's State Medicine Committee does not want chemists to get the penny fee for copying prescriptions (p. 132).

A testimonial to Dr. Charles Symes (Liverpool) in recognition of his services to the trade as a pharmaceutical Councillor is proposed (p. 101).

The legal cases are both numerous and interesting this week, and include the conviction of a drug company under the Pharmacy Acts (pp. 106-107).

We had hoped for an easing-off in regard to Insurance dispensing matters, but arrangements are still under discussion in several districts (p. 133).

In "Some Colonial Considerations" we deal with pharmacy in the British Empire, and the place that THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST has in it (p. 115).

Mr. E. F. Harrison was re-examined by the Patent-medicine Committee on Thursday, and was followed by Mr. C. B. Allen, President of the Pharmaceutical Society (p. 137).

A page of new photographs illustrating the Sudan acacia-gum industry, with an appropriate commentary by Mr. Stanley Ward, is one of the features of this issue (pp. 119-121).

Medical Benefit for Ireland and apothecaries' assistants are two of the topics discussed in our correspondence columns, but we are unable to get in all the letters that are in type (p. 150).

Almond oil, lead compounds, opium, and Alexandrian senna are higher; benzols, cinnamon-leaf oil, cocaine, morphine, acacia gum (c.i.f.), and Chinese galls are firmer. Cod-liver oil, olibanum, and milk-sugar are cheaper; ammonia sulphate, shellac, and turpentine are lower (p. 145).

CORNER FOR STUDENTS.

Conducted by Leonard Dobbin, Ph.D.

All communications for this section should be addressed thus: "Corner for Students, 'The Chemist and Druggist,' 42 Cannon Street, London, E.C."

QUALITATIVE ANALYSIS FOR JUNIOR STUDENTS.

A MIXTURE of not more than three salts will form the subject of the next exercise in qualitative analysis. The mixture will comprise acids and inorganic bases occurring in the British Pharmacopœia, and is to be submitted to a thorough systematic examination, all its constituents are to be detected, and proof is to be given that the substances detected are the only constituents of the mixture.

Students' applications for portions of the mixture of salts (accompanied by a stamped and addressed envelope, marked "Corner for Students" on the top left-hand corner) will be received up to Tuesday, April 29, and the samples will be posted on the following day.

Students' reports will be received up to Saturday, May 10. Each report should contain a concise account of the work done, and should include a list of the constituents detected. In this list any substance regarded as an accidental impurity should be distinguished from the essential constituents of the salts composing the mixture.

SPECIAL NOTICE.—The prizes in this series of analyses will be awarded only to apprentices or assistants who are preparing for the Qualifying examination of the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain or of Ireland, *which fact must be attested on their reports*. Others may obtain specimens of the mixture of salts, and their reports will be separately adjudicated, but they will be regarded as *hors concours*. Correspondents who do not state that they are preparing for a qualifying examination will be included in the latter list.

Report on April Analytical Exercise.

The powder distributed to students on March 26 consisted of equal parts by weight of ammonium aluminium sulphate (ammonia alum), magnesium hydroxy-carbonate, and sodium pyroborate (borax). The calculated composition of such a mixture is:

Al	...	...	...	...	2.0
Mg	...	...	...	...	8.5
Na	...	...	...	...	4.0
NH ₄	...	...	...	...	1.3
SO ₄	...	...	...	...	14.1
CO ₃	...	...	...	...	15.6
B ₂ O ₃	...	...	...	...	13.6
OH	...	...	...	...	3.0
H ₂ O	...	...	...	...	37.9
					100.0

The only noteworthy impurity was a small but distinct trace of iron.

Samples of the powder were distributed to thirty-seven students, and fifteen reports were submitted for examination.

The presence of sodium was detected by all our correspondents. The failures in the detection of the other constituents of the powder were: (a) Metallic radicals: Aluminium, 3; magnesium, 1; ammonium, 3. (b) Acid radicals: Sulphuric, 1; carbonic, 1; boric, 2. Two students failed to report the copious evolution of water when the powder was heated in a dry test-tube, and six failed to detect the iron present as impurity.

This exercise was of a distinctly simpler character than most of those of the tournament series, and did not present any features of serious difficulty. A careful preliminary examination revealed the presence of the majority of the main constituents and furnished useful guidance for the systematic analysis.

Very few correspondents recognised the presence of the boric-acid radical prior to entering upon the routine examination for metallic radicals, and in no instance did the reports indicate any attempt to deal with this radical on account of the possibility of its introducing complications of a kind similar to those met with when a phosphate is present. It is not safe, however, to ignore the presence

of a borate, since there is a liability of partial precipitation occurring, in the iron group, of sparingly soluble borates of the metals of the barium and magnesium groups, especially in hot solutions. In the present instance it appears likely, from the details supplied in some reports, that precipitation of magnesium borate did take place in a few cases to a certain extent, along with the aluminium and iron, on the addition of ammonium chloride and excess of ammonia as group reagents. The complete elimination of the boric-acid radical is not an easy matter; but by evaporation to dryness several times with concentrated sulphuric acid, the quantity present can usually be so far diminished that the remainder has little effect in complicating the behaviour and the necessary treatment of the iron-group precipitate.

One or two students who did not observe the formation of any iron-group precipitate on adding ammonium chloride and ammonia may have failed to do so in consequence of not having added ammonia in excess; or perhaps they added the reagents to solutions already highly diluted and may have merely overlooked the translucent and not very abundant precipitate which actually was produced.

There are few exercises in connection with which some of the reports do not contain remarks that indicate mistaken ideas as to individual points in analysis, but widespread misconception in regard to any particular matter is not so common. In this month's reports we notice that several students concluded as to the absence of the phosphoric-acid radical from the fact that silver nitrate did not produce any precipitate when added to a nitric-acid solution of the original powder, or to a portion of the sodium-carbonate extract after acidification of the latter with nitric acid—thus regarding silver phosphate, like silver chloride, bromide, and iodide, as insoluble in dilute nitric acid. This is a new mistake, the source of which we have not been able to ascertain, but we trust that our correspondents will make a particular note of it before it obtains further footing.

The same radicals were this month reported as impurities by so many students that we made specially careful examination for them. Traces of calcium and potassium, and of the nitric and hydrochloric acid radicals, were each reported in a number of cases, but we could not confirm the presence of any of them except the merest trace of the last-mentioned. When some of the powder was dissolved in the minimum quantity of dilute nitric acid and silver nitrate was then added, a very faint opalescence slowly appeared, but it was so slight as to indicate that nothing more than an infinitesimal trace of a chloride could be present. We are inclined to think that the calcium was introduced with tap-water, that the conclusion as to potassium was based, in most cases, upon the flame test above, and that the supposed indication of a nitrate was nothing more than the easily visible interface between the layer of sulphuric acid and the lighter layer of aqueous solution in the well-known test for nitrates by means of ferrous sulphate and sulphuric acid.

PRIZES.

The First Prize for the best analysis has been awarded to

CYRIL F. SIM, Dispensary, Bank Street, Worcester.

The Second Prize has been awarded to

B. W. MELHUISH, 21 Commercial Road, Bournemouth.

First Prize.—Any scientific book that is published at a price not greatly exceeding half-a-guinea may be taken as a first prize.

Second Prize.—Any scientific book which is sold for about five shillings may be taken as a second prize.

The students to whom prizes are awarded are requested to write at once to the Publisher naming the book or books they select.

MARKS AWARDED FOR ANALYSES.

1. Correspondents who are unqualified:

C. F. Sim (1st prize) ...	97	Infans	85
B. W. Melhuish (2nd prize) ...	95	C. C.	76
Amidogen	92	En Avant	66
Nomen	91	Smilax	64
Alpinus	89	Resorcin	63
Hypo	85	Phosphorus	55

2. Correspondents who are qualified :

Benzoin	91	Gwylm	79
Cobalt	89		

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

B. W. MELHUISE.—After passing hydrogen sulphide, as group reagent the liquid should have been boiled to expel the dissolved gas, and then boiled again after the addition of nitric acid, prior to adding ammonium chloride and ammonia. The fact that silver nitrate did not produce a precipitate in a solution acidified with nitric acid did not prove the absence of a phosphate, since silver phosphate dissolves in dilute nitric acid. The powder was partly soluble in water.

AMIDOGEN.—We were not able to confirm the presence of the traces of calcium and of potassium which you report. The former was probably introduced in tap-water.

NOMEN.—We could not obtain any reaction indicating the presence of a nitrate.

ALPINUS.—The magnesium-sulphate test which you employed to discriminate between bicarbonate and carbonate was quite useless: the precipitate which you obtained probably consisted of magnesium borate. Note that aluminium compounds are by no means the only substances which give a blue coloration when heated on charcoal with cobalt nitrate.

HYPO.—The part of the iron-group precipitate which was not aluminium hydroxide, and of which you did not succeed in ascertaining the nature, probably consisted of magnesium borate with traces of ferric hydroxide. The coloration which you observed on adding phenolphthalein to the aqueous extract from the powder was due to the hydrolysis of the borax.

INFANS.—We cannot do better than encourage you in the determination, at which you have evidently arrived, to persevere. Read the last sentence of the reply to "Alpinus."

C. C.—Your failure to observe the liberation of ammonia on heating the powder with lime and sodium hydroxide, although you observed its liberation when the powder was heated alone, appears very remarkable. We were not able to observe the faintest indication of the presence of a phosphate by aid of the test with ammonium molybdate.

EN AVANT.—The absence of blackening on heating is not a certain proof of the absence of organic salts, since formates, some oxalates, etc., decompose when heated without undergoing any, or at least any considerable, change in colour.

RESORCIN.—Read the second sentence of the reply to B. W. Melhuish.

COBALT.—An acetate mixed with a solution of calcium sulphate would not yield a precipitate of calcium acetate since the latter is an easily soluble salt. We note the adverse conditions under which your last two analyses were carried out.

GWYLM.—Aluminium and ferric oxides which have been strongly ignited do not dissolve readily in hydrochloric acid.

The Analytical Tournament.

At the beginning of the winter session we offered special prizes of books to the value of two guineas, one guinea, and half-a-guinea, with certificates, to the students who should attain first, second, and third places, respectively, in the aggregate marks for the six analytical exercises of the session. The analysis reported upon in the foregoing is the last exercise of the series, and we are now able to announce the results. Part was taken in the competition by forty-six students in all, of whom a fair number sent in reports upon all of the six exercises, and a gratifying amount of very satisfactory work was done from month to month. The only disappointing feature in the tournament was the dropping out, after a few months, of a number of students who would have had a good chance of taking high positions had they persevered to the end. We cannot urge too strongly upon students the desirability of continuing to compete, even although they may be disappointed at the position they attain in an individual competition.

The first place in the tournament has been taken by "Benzoin" (Mr. CHAS. T. BISHOP, 33 Broad Street, Welshpool) with the creditable aggregate score of 521, made up of 92, 94, 92, 71, 81, and 91, and to him the first prize of books to the value of 2*l.* 2*s.* and a certificate have been awarded.

For second place we have the unique occurrence of a triple tie, in which each of the three students concerned has attained an aggregate of 493 marks. In these circumstances we divide the second and third prizes between them, and award each books to the value of half-a-guinea, with a certificate. The winners of these prizes are :

Mr. I. H. BELL, 49 Market Street, Church Gresley ("Cobalt" : 95, 75, 83, 95, 56, 89).

Mr. B. W. MELHUISE, 21 Commercial Road, Bourne-mouth ("Lithol" : 96, 79, 84, 70, 69, 95).

Mr. C. G. OSTLER, 3 Lambridge Place, Bath ("C. C." : 88, 90, 85, 86, 68, 76).

We offer our congratulations to all the prizewinners on the successful results of their winter's work, and request that they will communicate at once with the Publisher, naming the books they desire to have as prizes:

A Minor Experience.

A peculiarity of this account of the Minor examination held at Bloomsbury Square, London, in April 1913, is that it is the first manuscript which has come to us bearing the marks of suffragomania. The left-hand side of the envelope is charred as if by burning, and the damage extends to the MS., which we are returning to the young author as a memento, it having been "damaged in the post at —," his native town.

ON presenting myself at the appointed time for the Practical examination, I was sent first of all to

DISPENSING.—My paper offered no difficulty, and I was not required to make any official galenical preparations, which are often a feature of this part of the examination. The work included a mixture, suppositories, pills, an inhalation, and a draught. I got them all finished, wrapped and directed, well under the allotted time.

PRACTICAL CHEMISTRY followed in the afternoon. "Make a qualitative analysis of the mixture." This was a powder, which was found to contain copper (probably in the form of cupric oxide) and glucose. "Report on the strength of the acid. hydrobrom. dil. B.P. Find its specific gravity." Pure silver nitrate was provided for the titration.

In due course I was notified to attend for the oral examination. The ordeal was attended by few of the terrors, with which imagination had invested it, though the time spent in awaiting the examiners' pleasure (by far the greater portion of the morning) afforded ample opportunity for disquieting speculation as to the result.

PRESCRIPTION-READING was my first subject. Here I was given (1) a paper upon which was written a prescription in English, with somewhat copious directions, the whole to be translated into full Latin; and (2) a simple problem involving a percentage calculation. I was left with these for about twenty minutes, and had them finished on the examiner's return. Then I was required to read through a number of manuscript prescriptions—most of them badly written—translating them into English, and pointing out overdoses. This was followed by about a dozen questions on dosage, all relating to potent drugs or chemicals.

CHEMISTRY AND PHYSICS was really enjoyable. What is the average pressure exerted by the atmosphere? (I started off well by replying, "Equal to 30 mm. of mercury," but quickly corrected the error.) Is the pressure greater or less on a mountain-top? How is it possible to calculate the height of a mountain by means of barometric readings? How is oxygen prepared on the commercial scale? What are the remaining constituents of the air? What would you expect to find after lightning? Do you know of a manufacturing process whereby electric sparks are utilised in a similar manner? What is ultimately formed? What happens when an aqueous solution of common salt is electrolysed? (This, after inquiring if I had studied electrolysis.) Do you know any commercial process in which chlorine is absorbed by a base? I was then asked if I knew anything of diazo-salts, and replying that I did not, the subject was accommodately changed. How is formaldehyde prepared? Could you make it from prussic acid? What does it yield on oxidation? After a few questions on benzene and its compounds with chlorine, I was complimented on the accuracy of my replies.

In **PHARMACY** I was handed a list of twelve official preparations, and asked to write down their strength. How is syrup of chloral hyd. prepared? Syrup of codeine? Ipecac. wine? Why not exhaust ipecac. root straight away with sherry? How is liquid ext. of ipecac. standardised? How make phosphorus pill? Why dissolve the phosphorus in carbon disulphide? How make menthol plaster? Why use a thermometer? Common-sense questions of this kind were

fired off for some time, and I was then shown some apparatus—a desiccator, a reduced-pressure desiccator (this I did not recognise at the time), and an elutriator. I was also shown a sieve, and asked the size of mesh.

MATERIA MEDICA.—I was given to recognise cubebs, guarana, willow-bark, cascara, belladonna-root, jaborandi-leaves, coca-leaves, senna (two kinds), calumba-root, inula-root, and several others. Is cubebs gathered ripe? Botanical source and constituents? Of what is guarana composed? Geographical source, constituents, and percentage of caffeine? Cascara: how distinguished from alder buckthorn bark? Belladonna-root: distinguishing features, constituents, percentage? Botanical sources of senna: which is which? Milk-sugar: how obtained? Formula? Is it readily fermentable? What is formed when milk “goes sour”? By what agency is this change brought about? A number of other questions regarding constituents and sources completed this subject.

BOTANY.—I was shown a slide beneath the microscope. It appeared to be transverse section of an aquatic dicotyledon stem, exhibiting large intercellular spaces, well-marked endodermis, etc. An inflorescence of broom-rape (as I learned afterwards) was handed across. What sort of a plant does it appear to be? What is a parasite? I was required to classify and to describe the flower in technical language. I was inclined to dispute a statement made by the examiner to the effect that the plant was “not British,” but refrained, as I was getting “fed up.” It may, too, have been a foreign species.

A weary period of waiting followed, during which I saw several men sent down, and wondered if their looks of misery would shortly be reflected upon my own features. Eventually, however, the President called me up, and congratulated me upon a successful issue. I am convinced that what the examiners look for is a sound knowledge of fundamentals, and not a profuse knowledge of superstructure. To know the “reason why” brings more marks than a mere enumeration of facts.—*Vivife.*

The Bottle Difficulty.



This sketch by a chemist's apprentice represents the “Confusion, illusion, and evasion” of the mineral-acids regulation. Now the big black bottle is coming into extended use under the National Insurance Act, but on May 1 it must cease to be used for carbolic preparations containing not more than 3 per cent. of carbolic acid.

DOMINICAN HONEY AND WAX.—The exports of honey from the Dominican Republic during 1911 were 125,988 gals. (11.769%), against 129,210 gals. (10.644%) in 1910 and 107,799 gals. (8.609%) in 1909. Germany was the destination. The exports of beeswax during 1911 were 306,928 kilos. (33.061%), against 269,702 kilos. (29.761%) in 1910 and 217,387 kilos. (24.754%) in 1909. The United States and Germany were the destinations.

ENGLISH AND WELSH NEWS.

When sending newspapers to the Editor please mark the items of news to which you desire to call his attention.

Brevities.

Essex County Council on April 18 issued an order for chemists at Grays Thurrock to close on Wednesdays at 1 P.M.

The London County Council have granted a poison-licence to Arthur Henry Mee, 46 Waterloo Bridge Road, London, S.E.

Plans lodged by Messrs. Burgoyne, Burbidges & Co., for the erection of offices and warehouses in High Street South, have been passed by the East Ham Town Council, subject to certain conditions.

The Governors of the Miller General Hospital, Greenwich, in their annual report state that the cost of out-patients last year was 7.73d. per head, as against 7.03d. in 1911, the increase being due to the rise in the price of drugs.

The Lancaster County Bench, on April 19, granted the temporary transfer of the wine-licence attached to the chemist's shop, 4 Winterdyne Terrace, West End, Morecambe, from Mr. S. Parker, chemist and druggist, to his successor, Mr. Harry Oldham, pharmacist, late of Seaforth, Liverpool.

The members of the pharmacy *materia-medica* class conducted by Mr. Arthur Knowles in connection with the evening continuation classes at the Sheffield Central Secondary School recently paid a visit to Owens College, Manchester, where they were received by Professor Greir, M.Sc., and conducted through the big medical and pharmaceutical laboratories.

The Western Pharmacists' Association of London has issued a circular, signed by Messrs. C. T. Allen, J. D. Marshall, H. R. Procter, W. Browne, A. R. Melhuish, W. F. Gulliver, R. H. Whigham, A. Latreille, R. E. Lownsbrough, and F. W. Gamble, asking support for Mr. Edmund White and Mr. J. T. Barrett in their candidature for the Pharmaceutical Council.

The Faversham (Kent) Town Council on April 15 received from the Local Government Board a suggestion that disinfectants should not be served out to the public except in properly labelled poison-bottles. Mr. E. Jenkins, chemist and druggist, strongly emphasised the need of this safeguard, and on his motion it was decided to obtain proper poison bottles and labels.

The question of the supply of drugs to the work-house was again raised at the meeting of the Dover Board of Guardians on April 17. At present supplies are obtained from a wholesale house through a local chemist. A motion “that the drugs be purchased direct from the wholesale firm to the satisfaction of the Board, and that the Board pay no second commission for such supplies,” was rejected by eleven votes to eight.

The Warrington Shakespearean Dramatic Society presented “The Merchant of Venice” at the Royal Court Theatre, Warrington, on April 16 and 17. The part of Launcelot Gobbo was taken by Mr. H. M. Ashton, chemist and druggist. The local critic congratulates Mr. Ashton on imparting the genuine Shakespearean flavour to the character and on obscuring his own personality in the assumption of the light-hearted and quaintly humorous servant-man.

Mr. Percy J. Ashfield, chemist and druggist, Rhyl, presided at the meeting of the Rhyl Advertising Association on April 15, when the annual report showed another year's successful work. At this meeting, and also at the meeting of the Rhyl District Council on April 14, thanks were rendered to Mr. Ashfield for the sums he had raised by dramatic performances in aid of the above Association and the North Wales Advertising Board. Mr. Ashfield was one of the promoters of a successful concert at Rhuddlan on April 18 in aid of the funds of the local cricket club.

Deaths under Anæsthetics.

In his annual report for the City of London, which has just been issued, Dr. Waldo states that the decrease

in the number of deaths under anæsthetics has been maintained during the past year. Altogether only nine inquests were held on such deaths, where formerly as many as eleven were held in a single year. He urges the necessity of legislation being introduced in order to lessen the number of deaths, and this should proceed on the lines of the recommendations of the departmental committee which sat a few years ago and investigated the entire question.

Yellow Fever Commission.

The Secretary of State for the Colonies has appointed the following gentlemen to be a Commission to study the nature and the relative frequency of the fevers occurring among the European natives, and others in West Africa, especially with regard to yellow fever and its minor manifestations:

Sir James Kingston Fowler, K.C.V.O., M.D., D.Sc., F.R.C.P. (Chairman).

Major Sir Ronald Ross, K.C.B., F.R.S., M.D., F.R.C.S., D.P.H., I.M.S. (retired).

Colonel Sir William Leishman, F.R.S., M.B., K.H.P., R.A.M.C.

Professor W. J. R. Simpson, C.M.G., M.D., F.R.C.P., D.P.H.

Mr. A. Fiddian, of the Colonial Office, has been appointed secretary to the Commission, and Mr. T. F. G. Mayer, M.R.C.S.E., L.R.C.P.L., West African Medical Staff, assistant secretary. It is intended that local investigators will work under the direction of the Commissioners at Freetown in Sierra Leone and Sekondi and Accra on the Gold Coast as centres.

The B.P.C.

The pharmaceutical correspondent of "The Times," referring to the Jubilee meeting of the British Pharmaceutical Conference, says:

Delegates from foreign countries and from British Colonies have indicated their intention of being present, and a large attendance is expected. The first meeting was held at Newcastle-upon-Tyne in September 1863, and since that year the Conference has met in most of the important centres in the United Kingdom. During the fifty years of its existence over a thousand original papers have been contributed by members of the Conference, and the progress which has been made in pharmaceutical science during the period is largely, if not mainly, due to the Conference. The Conference has met in London on two previous occasions—namely, in 1874 and 1900.

This is an exceptional compliment to come from that quarter.

Dispensers' Salaries.

The Metropolitan Asylums Board, on April 19, conceded a higher rate of remuneration to dispensers under the Board. According to the new arrangement the salaries of dispensers will begin at 120*l.* per annum, rising after four years' service by yearly increments of 7*l.* 10*s.* to 180*l.* The former rate began at 100*l.*, and rose to 150*l.*, but also included tea and dinner, which was reckoned as being worth 13*l.* Under the new system there are no such emoluments. The basis of payment thus corresponds to that under the London Unions.

The Local Government Board, who was asked by the Southwark Board of Guardians to sanction an increase of salary to Mr. J. F. Dunstan, dispenser at the Northern Dispensary, from 180*l.* to 190*l.* per annum, has written reminding the Guardians that it is only two and a half years since Mr. Dunstan reached his present maximum salary, and inquiring whether there are any exceptional circumstances, apart from his service, which in their opinion would justify a further increase of salary. The letter was referred by the Guardians to the Finance Committee.

Sale of Food and Drugs Acts.

In Lewisham two samples each of ammoniated tincture of quinine, sal volatile, and tincture of bark analysed recently were certified as genuine.

The Wandsworth analyst (Mr. A. H. M. Muter, F.I.C.) reports that all the following informal samples taken last quarter were genuine: Boric ointment (5), crushed linseed (3), Gregory's powder (3), compound liquorice powder (2), and iron pills (1).

The Law and Parliamentary Committee of Fulham Borough Council report that proceedings against the vendor of paregoric and syrup of squills containing no paregoric resulted in a fine of 12*s.* 6*d.*, costs being imposed. Another summons taken against the same person for selling a compounded drug—namely, paregoric and syrup of squills—not composed of the ingredients demanded was withdrawn.

In a report to the Middlesex County Council on April 17, the General Purposes Committee stated that a sample of whole linseed purchased at Hornsey was found to contain 5 per cent. of foreign seeds, apparently including rape, mustard, and a number of other seeds. Their presence was evident, and should have been noticed by the retailer. It was pointed out that the bulk of linseed imported into this country was used in manufactures, but when whole linseed was bought by the $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. at a chemist's or grocer's shop it might be presumed that it was required for the preparation of linseed tea. Then the linseed should unquestionably be, and, in fact, commonly is free from all foreign matter. In the present instance the retailer had been guilty of gross carelessness, and possibly so also had the wholesale firm from whom he obtained the article. As the last consignment bought by the retailer was obtained in October 1911 no steps could be taken against the wholesale firm, but the Committee had directed that a cautionary letter should be sent to the retailer.

A Private Arrangement.

A meeting of the creditors of the late Mr. George Stevenson, chemist and druggist, Sutton-in-Ashfield, was held on April 16, when a statement of affairs was submitted, showing liabilities 3,061*l.* 15*s.* 3*d.* and assets estimated to produce 142*l.* 3*s.* 10*d.*, the estate thus disclosing a deficiency of 2,919*l.* 11*s.* 5*d.* After a short discussion, it was resolved to wind up the estate and distribute the proceeds among the creditors. The following are among the creditors:

Evans Sons Lescher & Webb, Ltd., Liverpool (87*l.*); Raimcs & Co., York (74*l.*); British Petroleum Co., Birmingham (36*l.*); Ayrton, Saunders & Co., Ltd., Liverpool (30*l.*); Nobles & Hoare, Ltd., London (31*l.*); Sissons Bros. & Co., Ltd., Hull (24*l.*); and Reckitt & Sons, Hull (22*l.*).

Birmingham Notes.

At the grand Territorial display on April 19, Colonel W. F. Wyley, Mayor of Coventry, and Vice-Chairman of the Warwickshire Territorial Association, was among the distinguished persons with the Minister for War on the platform at the saluting base in Victoria Square.

A meeting of the Birmingham and Midland section of the Society of Chemical Industry was held at the University on April 17, when Dr. H. Lebach read a paper on "Bakelite and its Applications." The patent process produces four kinds of material: (1) Novolac, (2) resol, (3) resinol, and (4) resite.

Birmingham has, *pro tempore*, forsaken the waters of Gallant Wales owing to conduit repairs, and resorted to its well supplies. The result is that the public are finding a need for water-softeners. Messrs. Hedges, Ltd., who filed a window with a dainty display of their own speciality in this line, have done splendid business in it.

Liverpool Notes.

It has been definitely decided by the Liverpool Chemists' Association to open a National Fund for a testimonial to Dr. Chas. Symes, in recognition of his services to pharmacy.

The fine weather this last week, and the reaction, after so much "drugging" under the Insurance Act, having set in, business has quietened down considerably. Photographic goods are selling freely.

The stock, fixtures, utensils, etc., of the business carried on by the late Mr. F. C. Naylor, chemist and druggist, Fern Grove Pharmacy, Fern Grove, Sefton Park, Liverpool, were advertised to be sold by auction on April 21. A number of chemists who attended had to go away disappointed, as the business was bought as a "going concern" at the commencement of the sale.

Manchester Notes.

Measles is very prevalent just now, doctors and chemists having a busy time. On chemist in South

Manchester, who does a large amount of Insurance work, is at present ill in bed with the disease.

The "Daily Dispatch" of April 18 gives chemists' experience on the working of the Insurance Act. The article, like that in last week's "Guardian," states, on the authority of a gentleman holding office in connection with the Manchester Pharmaceutical Association, that there will be a shortage of money to pay chemists' accounts for the past quarter.

The prize competition held in connection with the Chemists' Assistants' Association of Manchester, Salford, and district on Wednesday, March 19, has resulted in the following awards: W. O. Wilkinson, first prize; P. B. Roberts, second; A. Burton, special; and John Lomax, junior prize. The prizes will be presented at the annual business meeting on April 30.

From Various Courts.

At Stratford on April 18, Stanley Thomas Gilbert (18), 35 Rhodesia Road, Leytonstone, was charged with attempting to administer to his brother, on April 1 and 15, a quantity of aqua fortis in cocoa, with intent to murder. The poison had been bought by accused's mother for treating warts. The prisoner, who was stated to be mentally deficient, was remanded so that a medical report might be obtained.

At a City of London inquest on April 21, it was stated that the wife of a Clerkenwell publican, feeling "run down," sent to a chemist's for a tonic. The Coroner (Dr. F. J. Waldo) asked a medical witness whether a chemist could prescribe for a person whom he had not seen. The doctor replied that chemists often supplied medicines in that fashion. Dr. Waldo: Then you have no monopoly? Witness: No, I wish we had.

At Hanley Borough Police Court on April 17, Llewellyn Lloyd Thomas, chemist, Duke Street, Fenton, and formerly carrying on business in Leonard Road, Hanley, was charged with unlawfully supplying at Hanley on January 31 certain noxious drugs knowing that the same were intended for the commission of an illegal offence. Mr. E. B. Lee, Deputy Town Clerk, who prosecuted, explained that the case arose out of a similar charge recently preferred against defendant's wife (*C. & D.*, February 22, index folio 289), and through the defendant having accepted responsibility. Defendant reserved his defence, and was committed for trial at the next Quarter Sessions, bail being allowed, defendant himself in 20*l.* and a surety of 20*l.*

IRISH NEWS.

When sending newspapers to the Editor please mark the items of news to which you desire to call his attention.

Brevities.

Messrs. Boileau & Boyd, Ltd., Dublin, have been awarded the contract for medicines by the General Prisons Board, Dublin Castle.

An animal-painting competition was conducted in Sir Wm. Baxter's pharmaceutical establishment in Coleraine, at which the first prize was won by Miss Olive Cunningham.

The Managing Committee of the Kilkenny Lunatic Asylum have accepted the tender of Messrs. Boileau & Boyd, Dublin, for the supply of medicines and medical and surgical appliances.

Miss Margaret Toher, Ph.C., was unanimously elected as dispenser at the last meeting of the South Dublin Board of Guardians. The position had been rendered vacant by the death of Mr. Fitzpatrick.

At the last meeting of the Belturbet Urban Council, a letter was read from Mr. John Robson, Ph.C., Butler Street, complaining of the dirty state of the Fair Green, and instructions were given to have the matter attended to.

At a meeting of the general council of the county councils in Dublin on April 18 a resolution was passed expressing the view that the Medical Benefit of the

National Insurance Act should not be extended to Ireland unless accompanied by a revision of the existing Poor-Law medical system.

Mr. C. Edward Hill, Waterford, representative in Ireland of Biggs's sheep-dip, was able to assist very materially in relieving the sufferings of a man who was run over, and whose leg was fractured on the Newry Road this week. Mr. Hill was passing in his motor-car, and conveyed the sufferer to the infirmary.

Sir Wm. Baxter, D.L., Coleraine, President of the Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland, was a member of a deputation from the co. Derry Insurance Committee which waited on Derry County Council last week to urge the necessity for appointing a permanent medical officer for the county under the National Insurance Act.

The matter of the recent contracts for medicines and surgical appliances entered into by Boards of Guardians is still engaging attention. The Tobercurry Guardians have been reminded by the Local Government Board that the contract should have been given to Messrs. Sumner & Co., whose tender was lower than that of Mr. Boyers, which the Guardians accepted. The Guardians are asking the L.G.B. to leave the matter where it is on the score of convenience. The Castletown Guardians have accepted the suggestion of the L.G.B. and given the drug contract to Messrs. Sumner & Co., their contract being below that of the Cork Chemical and Drug Co., which had been accepted. The Mallow Guardians, at their meeting on April 19, had before them a letter from Messrs. Sumner & Co. protesting against the drug contract being awarded to a contractor at a higher rate than their tender. The Guardians, who have already obtained the sanction of the L.G.B. to the award, marked the letter "Read."

Business Changes.

Mr. Wm. McConnell, druggist, has given up his premises at Ormeau Road, Belfast, and will in future carry on business at Bushmills, co. Antrim, only.

Mr. Michael Kane, late of Messrs. McMaster & Hodgson, Dublin, and who has also been at business in Drogheda and Clonmel, is opening a chemist's shop at 72 O'Connell Street, Clonmel.

Mr. H. Corbett Meyrick, Ph.C., has resigned the managership of Bennett's Medical Hall, Bagenalstown, to conduct the new pharmacy which is to be opened shortly at Bushmills by Lyle Taggart, Ltd.

The opening of the premises of Harmur, Ltd., Cash Chemists, 29-31 Ann Street, Belfast, will take place early in May. Mr. H. S. Hart, from the American Drug Store Co., London, has been appointed general manager, and the drug, chemical, and medicine department will be under the control of Mr. H. F. Moore, Ph.C., who has had pharmacy experience in Belfast. The premises have been specially built, and the shop is 80 ft. long, with a frontage of about 40 ft.

In the Courts.

Mr. P. N. White, Ph.C., Sligo, sued the Sligo Harbour Commissioners at the local Quarter Sessions to recover 14*l.* 10*s.* for goods supplied. For the defence a receipt was produced for 10*l.* 5*s.* 4*d.* in full settlement, and the case was dismissed on the merits.

At the Omagh Petty Sessions, Andrew J. Gloss was remanded on the charge of stealing a quantity of sticking-plaster from the shop of Messrs. Adams & Bates, chemists, Omagh. Mr. John Lyons, chemist's assistant, gave evidence that the accused came into the shop for a pennyworth of sticking-plaster, and subsequently, when he was charged with the larceny, witness saw him taking a quantity of plaster out of his pocket. The accused first said the sticking-plaster had been given to him, and afterwards said "It was only a wee joke of mine."

REFERRING to the warning to chemists published in the "Daily Mail" last week (*C. & D.*, April 19, index folio 595), "Truth" says: "I take it that 'The Prescriber's Pharmacopœia' is intended to supplement the average practitioner's meagre knowledge of drugs. But why address the warning to chemists? Most of them would probably detect the error for themselves. It is the doctors who do their own dispensing who are most likely to need warning."

SCOTTISH NEWS.

When sending newspapers to the Editor please mark the items of news to which you desire to call his attention.

Brevities.

Mr. Edward Gordon, chemist and druggist, Oakley. Kelly, has now removed into his new premises in the main street.

Mr. Jas. Dowell, chemist, formerly manager with Mr. T. Guthrie, chemist and druggist, Clydebank, has taken over the business of Mr. Simpson, 58 Baker Street, Stirling.

Mr. Alexander Smith, chemist and druggist, 20 Vicar Street, Falkirk, has purchased the prescription books of Messrs. Forgie, Forrester, McDonald & Duncan, chemists and druggists, 105 High Street, Falkirk.

Aberdeen and the North.

The Northern Co-operative Co., Ltd., report the following as the six months' business (September to March) in the drug branches of the company, compared with the corresponding period of 1911-12:

Branch	Sept. 1912 to Feb. 1913	1911 12
23 Rosemount Viaduct	£ 798 17 3½	£ 850 7 1½
577 George Street	506 0 10	462 15 10½
127 Holburn Street	616 2 6½	598 6 0
198 King Street	515 13 6	514 1 9½
69 Victoria Road	269 17 6½	251 4 1
	£2,706 11 8½	£2,671 14 10½
Trade discounts	17 8 2	25 13 7
Amount due by Insurance Commissioners	54 13 8	—
	£2,778 13 6½	£2,702 8 5½

The net profit, carried to the credit of the general account, is 424l. 2s. 1d.

Edinburgh.

Local chemists are patiently awaiting the arrival of the big cheques in payment for the quarter's Insurance dispensing, which seems all round to show a considerable falling-off in the current quarter.

The Edinburgh Chemists' Golf Club's spring holiday competition was held over Dunbar Golf Course, with the following result: First (Captain's prize), Mr. D. S. Philp; second and third (a tie), Messrs. Wm. Gibb and Geo. Baxter.

One of the newspapers recently reported, in reference to a few pharmacists who have come off the panel, that the insured in a certain district would now have a long journey to get prescriptions dispensed, as every chemist in a lengthy residential thoroughfare had decided to give up Insurance work. Those who know the city are aware how few and far between are chemists' establishments in the district.

In the report of the St. Cuthbert's Co-operative Association, Ltd., for the half-year ended March 4, the net sales in the drug-departments of five branches are given as 3,706l. 19s. 6d., and debts transferred as 2,813l. 1s. 11d. The total distributive expenses were 1,105l. 15s. 1½d., wages amounting to 870l. 2s. 9d. The net profit shown in profit and loss account (including the Lochrin Place drug-department) is 1,923l. 14s. 3½d.

Glasgow and the West.

Before Mr. Arthur McKellar, Ph.C., left Glasgow he was presented by the members of the Bellahouston Bowling Green with a handsome dressing-case. The presentation took place at Miller's Rooms, Govan, on Wednesday, April 16, when the club poet recited an ode in the vernacular. Mr. McKellar also received other presents, including a gold watch.

The Scottish Ideal Home Exhibition in the St. Andrew's Halls contains some items of interest to chemists and their assistants. Messrs. Evans Son Lescher & Webb, Ltd., have a beautiful stand of Montserrat lime-juice in conjunction with Prana Sparklets. Herlick's Malted Milk make a well got-up exhibit. Nestlé's Swiss Milk have a very neat stand. The Pure Aeration Supply (Scotland), Ltd., show a variety of sparklet syphons and aerators, and Quibell Bros., Ltd., Newark, show "Kerol" toilet preparations.

FRENCH NEWS.

(From the "C. & D." Paris Correspondent.)

PARIS SOCIETY OF PHARMACY.—At the April meeting the President (Professor Moreau) referred to the recent deaths of M. Godfrin, Director of the Nancy School of Pharmacy, and M. Blomquist, of Stockholm, both of whom were valued corresponding members of the Society. Among the papers read was one by Professor Bourquelot on gum arabic, and another by M. Guérin concerning the adulteration of the leaves of arnica.

TO COMMERCIAL TRAVELLERS.—The British Chamber of Commerce, 9 Rue des Pyramides, Paris, specially draws the attention of Chambers of Commerce in the United Kingdom to the form of "carte de légitimation" required by British commercial travellers consigning duty upon their samples on entering France. This form, which the Chamber holds at the disposal of inquirers, can be obtained from local Chambers of Commerce in the United Kingdom.

PHARMACY STUDENTS IN FRANCE.—According to a recently published statistics, there are at the present time 844 pharmacy students in France. The Superior School of Pharmacy at Paris heads the list with 297 students; Bordeaux follows with 92, and Lyons, Lille, Toulouse are next in order, with the preparatory schools of Caen and Tours last with only three students each. There are twenty-three schools of pharmacy in France in all, of which twelve are preparatory establishments.

A QUESTION OF CUSTOMS DUTY.—A package arrived recently by parcel-post at Khenchela, Algeria, addressed to a native dealer, and marked "Samples without value." The consignee was asked to call at the post-office to open the parcel, which he did, and the contents proved to be a number of small bottles containing perfumery. The parcel weighed about 2 lb. It appears that the perfumery was despatched by a German manufacturer of Magdeburg, and marked "Samples" with a view to endeavouring to escape the Custom-house duty. The native dealer was prosecuted for complicity in attempted fraud, but was acquitted, it being held that the sender of the parcel was the real culprit.

M. MARCEL DELÉPINE, the new professor of mineralogy and hydrology at the Paris School of Pharmacy, is forty-two years of age, having been born in Normandy on September 19, 1871. He has practically passed his life in Paris, qualifying as first-class pharmacist in 1896, and D.Sc. in 1898. He was preparator at the College of France from 1895 to 1902, when he obtained the post of hospital pharmacist, and two years later qualified as assistant professor (chemistry and toxicology) at the School of Pharmacy with a thesis on metallic carbides. He had thus held the post for nine years before gaining a titular professorship. During that time he had obtained the Leblanc (chemistry) prize of the Paris Chemical Society, and the Wilde prize of the Academy of Sciences. These awards have been bestowed upon him for his work as a whole. He has never made any of those startling discoveries which attract the attention of the public, but as a persistent and intelligent worker in pure science is best known and appreciated by the circle in which he lives—the men to whom fame and money mean nothing, and to whom the recognition of *savants* is the only prize worth working for. He married, in 1905, the only daughter of Dr. Paul Dorveaux, head librarian of the Paris School of Pharmacy.

OBITUARY.—The death occurred suddenly on Monday last, April 21, at Paris, of Dr. Paul Yvon, member of the Academy of Medicine here for the Section of Pharmacy, at the age of sixty-five. The deceased was in



M. MARCEL DELÉPINE.

business for many years as a practical pharmacist, but he finally retired to devote himself completely to the purely scientific side of pharmacy. He held a leading position in Paris in his branch, and was known as one of those indefatigable, courteous, and scholarly men who are at once the glory and charm of French scientific life. He was a Knight of the Legion of Honour, and took an active and leading part in editing and revising the last French Codex. Dr. Yvon passed away at his residence, 26 Avenue de l'Observatoire, Paris, the beautiful thoroughfare where the Paris School of Pharmacy is situated.

Pharmacy of the Bourdon d'Or.

The year 1912 witnessed the disappearance or removal of one of the oldest (if not actually the very oldest) of the drug-houses in Paris. Passing by the "Lourd d'Or," in the Rue St. Honoré, recently, I noticed that the Clérambourg-Delondre remedies no longer appeared in the familiar ground-floor shop, and learned that the business had been transferred to modern but prosaic premises in the Batignolles quarter of Paris. The old house, connected with the drug-trade for three centuries at least, is now occupied by a *marchand de vin*, though the proprietor of the bar retains the ancient familiar sign of the Golden (Pilgrim's) Staff. As I was making my notes a person—presumably the present proprietor—crossed the road, and we entered into conversation. My first question was naturally whether the incident of King Henry IV. of France being carried here after Ravallac had stabbed him (1610) is really historical. He assured me that a "photograph" (meaning an old print) exists of the incident. As a matter of fact, the spot where the gallant soldier of Navarre fell under the knife of the fanatic is but a stone's throw from the pharmacy, and as the King would necessarily pass by the Rue St. Honoré to regain the Louvre, it is quite possible that his courtiers stopped the coach here to ask the apothecary for "first aid"—useless enough in this case. Many other tales—shall we call them historic or legendary?—cluster around the old gable. Molière lived close by, and it is said that he was in the habit of calling at the pharmacy and chatting to the *père* Clérambourg (then the proprietor). It should be borne in mind that at that time, and even much later, this eastern quarter of Paris, now so workaday and mean, was rich and important, as the noble old mansions of the Marais (now occupied by wholesale druggists and the like) still bear witness. The house was then called the Bourdon St. Jacques (doubtless on account of the vicinity of the Church of St. Jacques), and the trade-mark of the pharmacy has ever been the pilgrim staff and scallop-shells associated with this saint. A tale is told of how a young Limousin of twenty presented himself at the pharmacy and related that no sooner had he arrived in Paris than he missed his purse. He was the son of an apothecary at Brives, and, although studying for the priesthood, would gladly serve in the pharmacy to earn his bread till money matters would be arranged. Clérambourg had been apprenticed at Brives, and, finding the young man was the son of his ex-employer, bid him welcome. The Limousin stayed for some time and then disappeared as suddenly as he had arrived. Long years passed. Clérambourg *père* was dead, and his son had taken on the business, when a well-equipped coach drew up at the door one night and an elderly stranger entered. He begged Clérambourg *fils* to give him certain drugs and a mortar. The stranger prepared with his own hands an ointment, and handed the pharmacist the formula as his payment. The apothecary gathered from the mien of the footmen that his visitor was a man of rank, and finally learned that he was the Cardinal Dubois—once the little Limousin his father had befriended. The ointment was for the Regent himself, whom Dubois served alike as Minister of State and medical adviser. The aristocracy could not do less than follow their leader, and Clérambourg *fils* reaped a sevenfold reward for his father's kindness by the sale of the "Pommade du Régent." The ancient but unduly "clerical" sign of the Bourdon St. Jacques was prudently dropped during the Revolution, and the pharmacy was

henceforth known as the "Bourdon d'Or." The Clérambourg disappeared, but their relation by marriage, Delondre, had retained their name as a prefix. Citizen Clérambourg-Delondre had diplomatically dissimulated during the Revolution and the Terror the Royalist sentiments natural enough in "the Regent's pharmacy," and with equal skill concealed considerable sums of money—legend said in an old well, but more probably in some less apparent and more secure spot. In any case, when luxury and extravagance returned in the gay days of the "Directory," the apothecary was well "in the swim." It was said that all the mortars and pestles, basins, etc., in the pharmacy were at this time of silver, and that every apprentice received when his "time" was up a present of plate with the monogram of the firm. Delondre had a country house near where the Arc de Triomphe now stands, and drove to and from business in a cabriolet with horses equipped in silver-plated harness. He is said to have been mixed up in Georges Cadoudal's plot against Bonaparte, even to have been with the famous Royalist not long before his arrest. In 1848 the Bourdon d'Or had passed into the hands of strangers, but was still a pharmacy. During the popular rising which culminated in the flight of Louis-Philippe and the establishment of the Second Republic, an armed band, we are assured, invaded the premises. The leader, pointing to the pharmacist, said: "Here is the man who knows how to make fulminating cotton." His companions then politely explained that the Cause of the People was worthy of all support, and as the insurgents might run short of powder at any moment, their young and brilliant pharmacist friend, having a working knowledge of explosives (revealed by a discharged assistant who figured among the band), would kindly prepare a sufficient quantity at once. The unhappy man pleaded he had not the necessary chemicals, but was merely told to write on a paper what he required, as all the drug-warehouses of the quarter were at the disposal of the patriots. All he could do was to set to work as slowly as possible, and at nightfall declare that his explosive required twelve hours to dry. On the morrow the Provisional Government assumed supreme authority, the street fighting was over, and the situation saved. Such are a few of the legends which cluster round the old house, familiar to all modern Parisians as a wholesale establishment supplying its old-established proprietary remedies to retail pharmacists. To find out exactly how much can be historically proved would be an interesting task for a student of Parisian history, but lies perhaps outside the domain of pharmacy.

SOUTH AFRICAN NEWS.

(From "C. & D." Correspondents.)

"The Chemist and Druggist" is regularly supplied by order to all the members of the seven Societies and Associations of Chemists in British South Africa, as well as to other chemists in business there.

The Union.

EXTERMINATING LOCUSTS.—Dr. Macdonald, of the South African Department of Agriculture, is now in London. A Reuter's representative says that in the course of an interview Dr. Macdonald made the following statement:

"Perhaps the most dramatic success in the campaign against insect-pests in South Africa is to be seen in the conquest of the locust by means of arsenical sprays. The flight of every swarm of locusts is registered and telegraphed to headquarters at Pretoria, and when the young locusts emerge the veldt is ringed by poisoned grass, over which they cannot pass."

Transvaal.

PHARMACY LAW.—At Wakkerstroom last month, Mr. Thomas Hannah, of Amersfoort, was charged with practising as a medical practitioner, dentist, and chemist without being registered in the Transvaal, and after two hearings was committed for trial. For the prosecution it is alleged that Section 39 of Ordinance 29, 1904, has been contravened forty-one times. The maximum penalty for each count is 100*l.*, or in default six months' imprisonment, with or without hard labour.

AUSTRALASIAN NEWS.

"The Chemist and Druggist" is regularly supplied by order to all the members of nine Societies of Chemists in Australia and New Zealand, and to many other Chemists in business there.

New South Wales.

COMING HOME.—At the meeting of the Pharmaceutical Society on March 11 an invitation to be present at the Jubilee meeting in London of the British Pharmaceutical Conference was received. Mr. Wadsworth, the President, stated that he intends being present at the Conference, and he was afterwards granted nine months' leave of absence.

New Zealand.

PHARMACEUTICAL TEACHING.—The sub-committee of the Otago Pharmaceutical Association have made arrangements with Mr. David H. L. Brett to undertake the teaching of chemistry to the pharmacy students of Dunedin. This is intended to give a training in this part of the Board's syllabus.

OPIMUM REGULATIONS.—At the end of February a notice was gazetted that extractum papaveris, an extract of poppy capsules, containing the properties of opium, will be liable to an import duty of 4s. per lb., being a duty fixed in proportion to the degree in which it approximates in its properties to opium.

FOOD AND DRUG REGULATIONS.—There was published in the "Gazette" on March 6 the complete regulations made under the Sale of Food and Drugs Act, 1907. This replaces the several regulations which have been gazetted at various times. There are fifty regulations, the last one dealing with drugs. The British Pharmacopœia is adopted as the standard for drugs, exceptions being made in the case of four liniments which may be prepared with methylated spirit, other preparations in which cottonseed oil can be used in place of olive oil, and wines in which sherry can be replaced by a Colonial wine. Eucalyptus oil and castor oil have also special standards. In the case of proprietary medicines intended for internal use the amount of alcohol has to be declared in terms of proof spirit if it is more than 2½ per cent. Eucalyptus oil prepared for internal use requires to have on the label the words "For internal use" in letters of a certain size. Regulations are also made regarding infants' food, one of which refers to the declaration in the case of food for persons suffering from diabetes of the percentage of carbohydrate present. Cream of tartar, malt extract, colouring matters, olive oil, spices, vinegar, honey, flavouring essences, lime-juice, and quinine tonics have standards laid down. Custard-powder tinted to resemble the colour of egg-yolk has to have a statement on the label that "This powder is artificially coloured to resemble eggs, but does not possess their nutritive properties." "Coloured to resemble eggs" is a curious statement to be compelled to make!

Tasmania.

OSMIRIDIUM.—The exports of osmiridium in the year 1911-12 amounted to 824.41 oz., valued at 5,963/. It is used for the tips of fountain-pens owing to its exceptional hardness. Tungsten, to the value of 6,935/. (62.84 tons), was mined on the north-east coast of Tasmania in the year 1911-12.

THE WORKERS' COMPENSATION BILL. which has been introduced into the Legislative Assembly, proposes to make insurance against accidents compulsory, to which the worker, the employer, and the Government shall contribute. Further, it will not include any persons employed otherwise than by way of manual labour whose remuneration exceeds 250/. a year, but does include any domestic servant or any person who has entered into or worked under a contract of service or apprenticeship with an employer, whether by way of manual labour, clerical work, or otherwise, and whether the contract is expressed or implied, is oral or in writing. The proposal is that the Government should pay one-sixth of the premium, the employer three-sixths, and the employé one-third.

Victoria.

NOTHING TO LEARN.—A dinner was given to the retiring members of the Pharmacy Board of Victoria in Melbourne on March 12. Mr. Towl was in the chair, and there were some sixty pharmacists present. Mr. Harold Grimwade, who is visiting England after an interval of ten years, said that on former occasions he had failed to find anything in England which would teach Victorian pharmacists to improve their position, and he expected to fail this time as he had failed before. Mr. Sayer also said that from wide experience in the Mother Country he was sure that Victorian pharmacists are as competent as in any part of the British Dominions.

Western Australia.

PHARMACEUTICAL COUNCIL.—The annual report of the Pharmaceutical Council of Western Australia contains a special appeal to masters to afford their apprentices every facility and encouragement to attend regularly the various classes provided for them. The happiest results to pharmacists have followed the operation of the Early Closing Act, and it is stated that the regulations that have been fixed under the Health Act are very fair "so far as the pharmacist is concerned." The report also calls attention to the question of uniformity of appearance of the compound mixture of pepsin and bismuth, and suggests the following modification of the A.P.F. recipe:

Pepsin	...	...	...	320 gr.
Spirit of chloroform	...	...	...	96 minims
Tincture of nux vomica	...	...	...	800 minims
Diluted hydrocyanic acid	...	...	...	300 minims
Solution of carmine, A.P.F.	...	...	...	60 minims
Tincture of cudbear, A.P.F.	...	...	...	60 minims
Solution of bismuth to	...	...	...	1 pint

Dissolve the pepsin in the solution of bismuth, add the tincture of nux vomica, the hydrocyanic acid, and then the carmine and cudbear solutions. On being newly made the colour is somewhat richer than, say, four weeks afterwards. If the stock mixture without colour is allowed to stand for that time, and the colour then added, a more permanent mixture will result. The stock can also be used in prescriptions requiring the mixture without colour.

PROPRIETARY MEDICINES REGULATIONS.—Referring to Regulations 61 and 62 made under the Food and Drugs Act, the Fremantle Chamber of Commerce has passed a resolution as follows:

"At a meeting of members of the General Committee of the Chamber the above regulations were fully discussed, when it was resolved that the Government be urged to withhold the operation of the regulations until such time as the conference between the Pure Foods Commission and representatives of the different States is held, and unanimity of action arrived at."

The Perth Chamber of Commerce, on February 26, passed the following resolution:

"That in the opinion of this Chamber uniform food and drug standards and regulations are urgently required throughout the Commonwealth.

"That the Government be requested to join with the other States in arranging for a conference on the lines suggested by the Federal Royal Commissioner's report.

"That in the opinion of this Chamber commercial interests should be well represented when delegates are appointed.

"That, pending uniform regulations, Regulations 61 and 62 should be withdrawn."

A long discussion took place, in which it was pointed out that the Act gives power to the Commissioner of Health to prohibit the sale of any proprietary medicine which, in the opinion of the Advisory Committee, is deleterious or dangerous to health. This power is amply sufficient to allow the Commissioner to deal with any medicine which can be used for improper or illegal purposes, and would not interfere with well-known and useful proprietary medicines. Mr. F. Wood showed that, although the West Australian Government has power to prohibit the sale of such medicines as do not conform with the new regulations coming into operation on May 1, it has no power to prohibit their importation into Western Australia. While Western Australian traders would be debarred from selling these medicines, they could be obtained through the parcel-post or in any other way from any of the other States.

LEGAL REPORTS.

TRADE LAW.

Post-dated Cheques.—In an action tried by Mr. Justice Horridge, in which a member of the Stock Exchange sought to recover 50*l.* on two post-dated cheques of 25*l.* each, his Lordship, in giving judgment for the plaintiff, held that a post-dated cheque is payable on demand on the due date, and is not to be regarded as a bill of exchange in the sense that three days' grace is to be allowed.

Almond Oil.—At the Driffield Petty Sessions on April 17, Mr. G. L. Rayner, chemist and druggist, was summoned under the Sale of Food and Drugs Acts for selling almond oil alleged to be adulterated. Mr. T. Holtby, who appeared for the defendant, expressed the desire that the third portion of the sample should be sent to the Government laboratory for analysis. This was acceded to by the Magistrates, and the case was adjourned.

A Drugs Account.—In the Shoreditch County Court on April 18, before Judge Smyly, K.C., Messrs. C. J. Hewlett & Son, Ltd., 40 Charlotte Street, E.C., wholesale druggists, sought to enforce payment from Dr. J. Elliott Jameson, 84 Portway, East Ham, of 12*l.* 4*s.* 5*d.* for drugs supplied. The defendant said that at one time he had a very good practice, but illness and monetary losses had pulled him down. He is now on the Insurance panel, with 262 patients, which bring him in 88*l.* a year, with hopes of an increase. He could not offer more than 5*s.* a month, with an increase when trade improves. His Honour made an order for payment at 5*s.* a month for three months, and 10*s.* a month after.

Cottonseed Oil Case.—At the Hull County Court, before Judge Fossett Lock, on April 17 and 18, Messrs. Plimpton & Smith sued Messrs. J. Grindell & Sons, feeding-cake makers, for 16*l.* 9*s.*, the price of 14 cwt. of crude Egyptian cotton oil; and the defendants counterclaimed for the same amount, being the price of the oil, on the ground that it was not of the quality specified. According to the evidence of Mr. H. Thompson, F.C.S., Hull, the oil supplied contained 9.06 per cent. of water, 0.14 per cent. of meal and dirt, and 90.8 per cent. of clear dark red oil. Mr. M. D. Penney, F.C.S., on the contrary, certified that the sample which he had examined contained only 0.5 per cent. of moisture. His Honour, in giving judgment, remarked that the defence to the claim was that the defendants did not accept the oil, but rejected it, in accordance with the provisions of the Sale of Goods Act, on the ground that it did not comply with what had been specified. He had no hesitation in finding for the plaintiffs on that defence, as the defendants had used part of the oil, making it impossible for the them to return the goods to the seller in the condition in which they were originally. He therefore found for the plaintiffs on the original claim, with costs. As to the counterclaim for the same amount as damages for breach of contract for warranty, he could come to no other conclusion than that the oil when delivered contained 9 per cent. of water. In consequence the defendants were entitled to succeed, technically, upon the counterclaim. Costs were assessed to the plaintiffs on C scale, and to the defendants on B scale.

A Company Chemist's Meat Bill.—At Camelford County Court on April 17, before Judge Gent, C. M. Harris, Ltd., chemists, etc., Camelford, sued Boaz Stephens, Camelford, for 24*s.* for goods supplied. Mr. E. G. Coombe, chemist and druggist, manager for C. M. Harris, Ltd., said he was authorised to appear by Henry Harris, the present secretary of the company, receiver on behalf of the debenture-holders. The debt was for goods supplied between 1906 and September 1908. The defendant produced his ledger showing that 11*l.* for meat supplied when he (defendant) was a butcher in Camelford was owing by C. M. Harris. They had been dealing together, and he (Stephens) claimed that the amount for which he had been sued had been paid for by meat supplied to Harris. There was an agreement between them to set off one debt against the other. The entries in Stephens's ledger were headed "C. M. Harris, Bank." Mr. Coombe told his Honour that on February 28 of this year the debenture-holders got a receiver appointed, and C. M. Harris ceased to be manager on January 1. Meat would not be ordered to the company. At present C. M. Harris is in Canada. Henry Harris, secretary of the company, said the debentures were issued in January 1912. He could not say the exact date of the formation of the company, but thought it was about nine or ten years ago. The articles of association were produced, one clause read by the Judge being that the business should be carried on by C. M. Harris as managing director, and that he should not

be removable from office. He added that without the order appointing Mr. Henry Harris as receiver and the debenture trust-deed the plaintiff's case was incomplete, title not being proved. He asked Stephens to consent to judgment for 24*s.* against him, without costs, and pointed out that although C. M. Harris was the irremovable manager, Stephens had not proved that the meat was supplied to the company. For C. M. Harris, Ltd., to prove their title would put them to some trouble and expense. If Stephens in rendering his account had deducted the amount of the company's claim it would have put a different aspect on the case. If his Honour's suggestion was accepted it would leave Stephens with his remedy against C. M. Harris. Stephens accepted judgment against himself for the amount of the claim, without costs, payment to be made within a month.

High Court Cases.

Unless when otherwise stated these cases have been heard in the High Court of Justice, London.

DENTAL SLANDER ACTION.

Mr. Justice Scrutton and a jury in the King's Bench Division on April 23 had before them an action by Mr. Alfred James Clark, a member of the Incorporated Dental Society, practising at 175 Romford Road, Stratford, to recover damages from the defendant, Mr. H. F. Purdy, a hairdresser, carrying on business at 67 Water Lane, Stratford, for alleged slander. Mr. Hollis Walker, K.C., and Mr. W. A. Metcalfe appeared for the plaintiff, and Mr. Harold Brandon was for the defendant.

Evidence of the alleged slander was given by Miss Lily Hawkhead, a telephone supervisor. Witness said that on October 15 of last year she went out with the intention of going to the plaintiff to have her teeth attended to. On the way she passed the defendant's shop and went in to see his wife. Witness remarked to the defendant that she was going to Mr. Clark. Defendant then told her that a Mrs. Isaacs had been to Mr. Clark, and had had her teeth broken. In consequence, witness did not go to the plaintiff's, but saw another dentist instead.

Plaintiff also gave evidence, and in cross-examination said he is not registered.

Mr. Brandon submitted there was no case to answer. Plaintiff, said counsel, had held himself out as a dentist, and by so doing committed what amounted to an unlawful act. In his statement of claim he referred to his "profession" and said the words complained of meant that he is unfit to be employed as a dentist.

Mr. Justice Scrutton: I think you had better call your evidence, and we will leave this point for the House of Lords.

Defendant then went into the box and denied that he uttered the slander alleged. Miss Hawkhead told him she was going to the plaintiff, and witness recommended another gentleman to whom he and his wife had been. He did not say that anybody had suffered broken teeth at the plaintiff's.

The jury returned a verdict for the defendant, for whom judgment was entered.

ACTION BY A BOOTS' CASHIER.

In the King's Bench Division, before Mr. Justice Bankes and a common jury, an action was brought on April 21 by Miss Ethel Gates, who resides at Whippendell Road, Watford, against H. T. Best, Ltd., described by counsel as dental specialists, carrying on business at 64 Market Place, Watford, claiming damages against the defendants in respect to alleged negligence in the extraction of teeth by which she alleged she contracted blood-poisoning. The defendants, by their pleadings, denied the alleged negligence. Mr. R. B. Simner appeared for the plaintiff; the defendants were not represented by counsel.

Mr. Simner, in opening the case for Miss Gates, said she was employed as a cashier at the branch of Boots, chemists, at High Street, Lewisham. In September 1912 the plaintiff was suffering very severely from toothache, and she went to the defendants' establishment at Market Place, Watford. There she saw a member of the defendant firm, who suggested that she should have eight teeth drawn. She went away and returned in the afternoon,

when the defendants extracted three teeth. She went on the following day and the defendants' representative suggested she should come again on the succeeding day, and eventually three more in the lower jaw were dealt with. The plaintiff subsequently suffered the greatest pain, due (counsel suggested) to blood-poisoning set up by an injection in the gums—an injection which, counsel contended, was not proper under the circumstances, as the plaintiff had told the defendants that she believed she had an abscess. He asked the jury to award the plaintiff damages in respect to the suffering she had undergone through the defendants' alleged negligence.

The plaintiff gave evidence in support of her case, and spoke of her experiences at the defendants' establishment. She distinctly told the defendants' representative that she believed she had an abscess in the lower jaw. The operator said that gas was seldom given, and he would give an injection that would have the effect of making the operation painless. She was given warm water to rinse her mouth, and no suggestion was made to her about a mouth-wash. Witness also said, in reply to a suggestion by her counsel, that the operator came into the room rubbing some white powder from off his trousers, and he did not wash his hands before carrying out the extractions. She added that the operator used forceps and a syringe, and put his fingers into her mouth. The next morning her jaw was very stiff, and she could hardly swallow or speak, and there was a large swelling in her neck. She had to be attended by a surgeon-dentist, and she suffered a very great deal of pain.

Elizabeth Mary Yates, mother of the plaintiff, also gave evidence, and said that her daughter's health was good until she attended for these extractions.

Dr. M. Eager and Dr. G. H. Smith, dental surgeon, both of Watford, gave evidence as to the condition of the plaintiff.

Mr. Justice Bankes proceeded to sum up the case to the jury (the defendants not being represented and not calling evidence). His Lordship pointed out that the defendants did not appear, but the jury had to be satisfied that the plaintiff had by her evidence proved negligence against them.

The jury returned a verdict for the plaintiff for fifty guineas damages and eleven guineas expenses incurred, making 64*l.* 1*s.* It was agreed to strike off the odd shilling, and judgment was entered for the plaintiff for 64*l.* accordingly.

MEDICAL ENTERPRISE, LTD.

In the King's Bench Division on April 21 and 22, Mr. Justice Horridge with a common jury had before him an action for damages of breach of contract against several Brighton gentlemen who were concerned in the promotion of a company, Medical Enterprise Society, Ltd. Plaintiff was Mr. Ernest Acton Kite, solicitor, Palace Chambers, Westminster; and the defendants were Dr. Whitethorne Cole, Sackville Road, Hove, Mr. W. Geo. W. B. Palmer, 8 York Place, Brighton, formerly a chemist's assistant, and now a director and manager of the drugs department of Medical Enterprise, Ltd., and others. Plaintiff sued for damages on the ground that defendants had broken their agreement to buy back the preference participating ordinary shares in "Medical Enterprise," which plaintiff said he had taken solely on condition that by a certain date they were taken off his hands at par. On the case being called, it was stated that Dr. Cole had agreed to judgment being signed against him, and that the remaining defendants, with the exception of Mr. Palmer, did not appear or had effected a compromise. Mr. Palmer set up the defence that the whole transaction was a device by which plaintiff succeeded in getting his bill of costs against the company paid in shares before the company had gone to allotment.

Mr. Elliott, K.C., in opening the case for the plaintiff, said the company was registered in January 1911 for the purpose of supplying drugs and medical articles for medical men. The contract sued upon was in writing and dated April 19, 1912, and the material part of that agreement was as follows:

"To Mr. Ernest A. Kite, Sir,—You having, at our request, applied and paid in full for 550 preferred par-

ticipating ordinary shares of 10*s.* each in the capital of the Medical Enterprise Society, Limited, we, the undersigned, hereby jointly and severally agree that we or some of us will prior to the 7th May, 1912, obtain for you purchasers for 125 of such shares at par, and purchasers for a further 125 of such shares at par prior to the 17th June, 1912."

Plaintiff on the strength of that agreement applied for the 550 shares, and paid for them in full. But although he was always ready to deliver them, no arrangement had been made to find purchasers for the shares, which are now valueless. Among the many defences, said counsel, the defendants set up that plaintiff was solicitor to the company, and was handed a cheque for 275*l.* for his costs, and that with that cheque he paid for his shares; and, further, they pleaded that there was no consideration.

Mr. Ernest Kite, plaintiff, examined by Mr. Elliott, said the company had never paid a dividend. It was formed out of "Adventurers, Ltd.," a syndicate of which witness was the secretary. Witness had performed services in connection with the formation of the company, and made the arrangement for the purpose of obtaining his costs. Mr. Martin O'Connor was cross-examining the plaintiff to show that the company was utterly insolvent, when his Lordship observed that he could not see how such evidence could affect the plaintiff's rights under the agreement. Mr. O'Connor was about to open his case to the jury, when his Lordship suggested that he should at once call his evidence.

Mr. Bernini Palmer, defendant, examined by Mr. O'Connor, said he was an assistant chemist out of employment at the time he joined the company.

His Lordship: An assistant in want of assistance. (Laughter.)

Witness was appointed manager of the drugs department, at a salary of 250*l.* for the first year. By April 19, 1912, the arrears of his salary amounted to over 70*l.* Counsel then asked a great number of questions to prove the insolvency of the company, when his Lordship again objected that the evidence did not affect the plaintiff's contract to get his costs paid in shares.

Mr. O'Connor said that everyone who entered into a transaction to pay shares before the company had gone to allotment was liable to a penalty of 50*l.*, and that the whole scheme was a conspiracy.

His Lordship said there was ground for supposing that Mr. Kite had acted improperly. Ultimately his Lordship left the following questions to the jury:

- (1) Was the bill of costs due to the plaintiff?
- (2) Was it agreed at 275*l.*?
- (3) Was the agreement sued upon part of a scheme to enable the company to go to allotment?
- (4) If so, was plaintiff aware that it was part of such a scheme?

The jury answered all the questions in the affirmative, and his Lordship entered judgment for the plaintiff for 125*l.*, the amount claimed, with costs.

Pharmacy Acts.

A DRUG COMPANY FINED.

At Brentford County Court on April 23, Bosustow's Drug Stores, Ltd., 295 High Road, Chiswick, were summoned by the Pharmaceutical Society for the recovery of 5*l.*, being the penalty for unlawfully keeping open shop for the sale of poisons without having a qualified superintendent in charge, and 5*l.* for selling opium in a compound of laudanum and soap liniment without placing it in a bottle distinguishable by touch from an ordinary medicine-bottle.—Mr. Keith S. Thompson appeared for the plaintiffs, and there was no defence.

His Honour: Whom does the penalty go to?—Mr. Thompson: To the Society, and is used as the Registrar wishes.

Geo. Walldock, one of the Society's Inspectors, deposed to purchasing on January 20 at defendants' drug-stores laudanum and soap liniment. It was not supplied in a bottle distinguishable from an ordinary bottle by touch.

Fred Wm. Grant, Clerk to the Registrar of the plaintiff Society, testified that on January 20 there was no registered superintendent in charge of the defendants' shop. He had since received notice of such an appointment.

Judge Bray allowed the full claim, with costs.

LIMITED COMPANIES.

New Companies Registered.

The letters P.C. mean Private Company within the meaning of the Companies Act, 1907, and R.O., Registered Office.

STOLZ ELECTROPHONE CO. (1913), LTD.—Capital 60,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. The first directors are Sir John E. Thrift, Kt. (chairman), Lord Rosmead, F. Clarke, and J. Holt. R.O., 35 Fleet Street, London, E.C.

ACME DISPENSING CO., LTD. (P.C.)—Capital 500*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To carry on the business of chemists, druggists, etc. The first directors are Mrs. E. M. Colvin and Mrs. M. J. McGonagle. R.O., 245 Crown Street, Glasgow.

MORGAN CRUCIBLE CO. (SOUTH AMERICA), LTD. (P.C.)—Capital 500*l.*, in 10*l.* shares. Objects: To take over the business of crucible and carbon brush manufacturers, potters and manufacturers of plumbago carried on by the Morgan Crucible Co., Ltd., in South America.

BESLIN, LTD. (P.C.)—Capital 100*l.*, in 1*s.* shares. Objects: To acquire the process of manufacturing a certain medicine known as "Beslin," and to adopt an agreement with Mrs. Susie Bellasis, R. R. Needham, and V. Hughes, who are the first directors. R.O., 18 Eldon Street, London, E.C.

ASSOCIATED HAIR MERCHANTS, LTD. (P.C.)—Capital 5,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To carry on the business of manufacturers of agents for, and dealers in hair and perfumes, druggists' sundriesmen, etc., and to adopt an agreement with A. S. Druiff and W. Howard. R.O., 27 Frith Street, London, W.

J. H. CLARK, CAMPDEN, LTD. (P.C.)—Capital 10,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To carry on the business of manufacturers of and dealers in game, poultry, dog and cattle medicines, feeding preparations, etc., and to acquire the business carried on by J. H. Clark at Chipping Campden, Gloucestershire.

JAMES YOUNG & SONS (SPRINGFIELD), LTD. (P.C.)—Registered in Edinburgh. Capital 20,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To acquire and carry on the business of James Young & Sons, soap-manufacturers, Glasgow. The first directors are R. F. Young and J. Young. R.O., 400 Springfield Road, Glasgow.

RYAN & WALMSLEY, LTD. (P.C.)—Capital 5,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To carry on the business of chemists, druggists, drysalters, etc., and to adopt an agreement with E. S. Ryan and E. W. Walmsley. The first directors are E. S. Ryan, C. A. Gaze, J. Symonds, and H. M. Chilton. R.O., 201A Harrow Road, London, W.

MARK J. WHITTAKER, LTD. (P.C.)—Capital 300*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To take over the business of a drug merchant, drysalter, oil and colour man, patent-medicine vendor, seedsman, etc., carried on by Mark J. Whittaker at Clayton-le-Moors. The first directors are M. J. Whittaker, J. B. Hodgson, and W. H. Haines.

PEACH'S, LTD. (P.C.)—Capital 20,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To acquire and work patents for a shaving, tooth-cream, and face-cream pot, metal container, and container for washing-soap, to manufacture soap and saponaceous substances, etc., and to adopt an agreement with E. Tilston for the granting of an option to purchase certain patents, designs, and protections. The first directors are F. Howard (permanent director and chairman), H. G. Orme, G. Newton, T. Smith, and E. Tilston (or his nominee).

INCORPORATED ASSOCIATION OF RETAIL DISTRIBUTORS (the word "Limited" is omitted from the title by licence of the Board of Trade).—Objects: To provide a central organisation for promoting and protecting the interests of proprietors of and companies and persons interested in retail distributing stores or shops. The articles specify that the first members of the "Council of Management" shall be such of the undermentioned as shall become members of the Association and consent to act—viz., Sir Fredk. W. Fryer, K.C.S.I., J. Bathurst (Junior Army and Navy Stores), W. Elbourn and J. A. Winsor (Jones Bros., Holloway), J. E. Bignall and F. Webster (C.S.S.A.), R. Rabbidge and W. A. Sargeant (Peter Robinson), S. Woolger and H. W. Halifax (Frederick Goringe), F. Barker and S. M. Skinner (John Barker & Co.), R. Burbidge and R. H. Griffith (Harrod's Stores), A. E. Cowper and P. A. Best (Selfridge & Co.), A. W. Gamage and E. M. Gamage (A. W. Gamage), C. T. Bazell and F. G. Dann (Wm. Whiteley), P. E. Crémieu-Javal and H. G. Sneath (Spiers & Pond), and W. J. Killick (John Barnes & Co.), with power to add to their number.

Company News.

ESSEX PURE DRUG-STORES, LTD.—To be voluntarily wound up. Liquidator, Mr. Charles Comins, 50 Cannon Street, London, E.C.

COPAQUIRE COPPER SULPHATE CO., LTD.—Mr. H. C. Howard, 70A Basinghall Street, London, E.C., ceased to act as receiver or manager on April 14, 1913.

BENGER'S FOOD, LTD.—The directors, in their annual report, bring up the ordinary share dividend to 10 per cent., free of tax, place 17,500*l.* to reserve, and carry forward 7,600*l.*

BORAX CONSOLIDATED, LTD.—The directors have declared a dividend on the preferred ordinary shares at the rate of 6 per cent. per annum, less income-tax, in respect of the half-year to March 31 last.

REMOVALS FROM REGISTER.—By notice gazetted on April 13, the following joint stock companies will, at the expiration of three months from that date, be struck off the register at Somerset House, unless cause is shown to the contrary: Anglo-French Chemical Works, Ltd.; May's Drug Stores, Ltd.; National Saccharin Co., Ltd.; Overton, Cash Chemists, Ltd.

AERATORS, LTD.—The accounts for 1912 show a net profit, after providing for depreciation, debenture interest, etc., and including 1,046*l.* brought forward, of 16,450*l.* The directors recommend the transfer of 3,096*l.* to reserve and the payment of a further dividend of 3 per cent. on the preferred ordinary shares, making 6 per cent. for the twelve months, leaving 8,086*l.* to be carried forward.—A meeting of the shareholders was held at Craig's Court House, Charing Cross, S.W., on April 22, Mr. H. V. Rudston Read presiding. In the course of his remarks, moving the adoption of the report and the accounts, the Chairman referred to the new apparatus and refillable bulbs and the great future that there is for them, and expressed his own and his colleagues' appreciation of the services of the staff, especially in respect to the introduction of the new apparatus. The motion was seconded by Mr. K. S. Murray, and carried unanimously.

Charges or Mortgages.

Under the Companies (Consolidation) Act, 1908, Section 92, the mortgages or charges therein specified are (except in Scotland) void against the liquidator and any creditor of the company unless filed with the Registrar in accordance with the conditions laid down in the Act. Full statutory particulars of the following have been filed at Somerset House, London, W.C.

Edgar's Manufacturing Co., Ltd.—Debenture, dated February 25, 1913, to secure 200*l.*, charged on company's undertaking and property, present and future, including recipe, testimonials, Press opinions, etc. Holder: P. C. Edgar, Worcester House, Deal.

Lady Reid's Teeth Society, Ltd.—Particulars of 500*l.* debentures, amount of the present issue being 350*l.* Property charged: The company's undertaking and property, present and future, including uncalled capital.

Marshall's Drug Stores, Ltd.—Particulars of 600*l.* debentures, created March 20, the amount of the present issue being 400*l.* Property charged: The company's undertaking and property, present and future. No trustees.

Mellin's Food, Ltd.—Mortgage on Marlborough Works and other premises, dated March 19, to secure all moneys due or to become due from the company to London City and Midland Bank, Ltd., 49 Rye Lane, Peckham, stamped to cover 45,000*l.*

R. T. Booth's Hyomee, Ltd.—Debenture dated March 6, 1913, to secure 500*l.*, charged on the company's undertaking and property, present and future, including uncalled capital. Holder: C. H. Baxter, Wentworth Road, London Road, Leicester.

Sapon, Ltd.—Particulars of 16,000*l.* prior lien bonds, amount of the present issue 10,000*l.* Property charged: The company's undertaking and property, present and future, including uncalled capital.

Savory & Moore, Ltd.—A memorandum of satisfaction in full of debentures dated from December 22, 1902, to April 3, 1907, securing 4,300*l.*, has been filed; as also has the issue on February 14 of 1,900*l.*, and on March 4 of 600*l.* debentures.

Yardley & Co., Ltd.—Deed of further charge on leasehold premises in Carpenter's Road, Stratford, dated December 28, 1912, to secure 1,400*l.* (supplemental to mortgage dated December 29, 1904, securing 5,000*l.*, of which the said 1,400*l.* forms a part). Holders: London County and Westminster Bank, Ltd., 41 Lothbury, E.C.

Zedex (1912), Ltd.—Debenture, dated February 28, 1913, to secure 5,000*l.*, charged on company's property, present and future, including uncalled capital. Holder: W. W. Crotch, 1 Cheapside, London, E.C.

BIRTH.

DUNCAN.—At "Kinross," Briar Avenue, Whitley Bay, Monkseaton, on April 17, the wife of James Duncan (director of and North of England representative for Messrs. Ayrton, Saunders & Co., Ltd., Liverpool), of a son.

DEATHS.

BLOXHAM.—At Oxford, on April 3, Mr. William Eagleson Bloxham, chemist and druggist, 33 Bullingdon Road, Oxford. Mr. Bloxham passed the Modified examination in 1877.

COOPER.—At Huntingdon, on April 23, Mr. Albert Cooper, chemist and druggist, 90 High Street, Huntingdon, aged fifty-four. Mr. Cooper was a bachelor.

FAULL.—At Bradford, Yorks, on April 31, Mr. John Faull, chemist and druggist, 206 Westgate, Bradford, aged eighty-two.

DAWSON.—On April 16, after a brief illness, Mr. William Dawson, chemist and druggist, of Morley, Yorks. Mr. Dawson was manager for Taylor's Drug Co., Ltd., Queen Street, Morley. He was a prominent Freemason.

DREW.—At 1 Courtland Road, Mossley Hill, Liverpool, on April 18, Mr. Samuel Kingdon Drew, chemist and druggist, aged eighty. Mr. Drew was in business at 291 Park Road, Liverpool, for about fifty years. He sold his pharmacy about six years ago to Mr. Prysor Jones. Mr. Drew was actively associated with the Liverpool Chemists' Association in its earlier days. The funeral took place at Smithdown Road Cemetery on April 22.

HODGSON.—At 2 Luther Street, Leicester, on April 16, Mr. Charles Garforth Hodgson, chemist and druggist, aged eighty-nine. Mr. Hodgson was in business prior to the Pharmacy Act of 1868.

SAUNDERS.—At Portsmouth on April 21, Mr. William Henry Saunders, 113 High Street, Portsmouth, aged eighty-one. Mr. Saunders had been suffering from sciatica, but he had sufficiently recovered to get up last Monday. Just before going to bed he was seized with an attack of apoplexy, which ended fatally. Mr. Saunders's pharmacy was the oldest in Portsmouth. He commenced a seven years' apprenticeship there in 1857. His master, an apothecary named Megginson, died when he had served about half this period, but Mr. Saunders remained there until his death. His intimate knowledge of matters relating to the early history of the town deservedly earned for Mr. Saunders the title of "The Portsmouth Historian." He was a man of many parts—antiquary, naturalist, historian, and *littérateur*. Mr. Saunders was at one time a member of the Town Council, representing St. Thomas's Ward from 1876 to 1881. Later he was appointed Borough Curator. He possessed a valuable collection of historical relics while the loans and gifts he has made to the Borough Museum from time to time have added immensely to the attractiveness of that fine collection. He had a fine collection of prints dealing with the bygone history of the old borough. In his "Annals of Portsmouth" he gave a vivid picture of the old town. He was also an active worker in St. Thomas's Church, where from time to time he held the offices of vestry clerk, churchwarden, and sidesman.



MR. W. H. SAUNDERS.

SPURGEON.—On April 10, Mr. Fredk. John Spurgeon, chemist and druggist, Tunnel Cottages, Belstead Road, Ipswich, aged sixty-eight.

GAZETTE.

Partnerships Dissolved.

POOLE, A. H., and HITCHIN, G. R., Tooting, Bury, physicians and surgeons, under the style of Poole & Hitchin.

RENTON, R. S., and THOMPSON, H. V., Moss Lane and Longmoor Lane, Aintree, and Mill Street, Liverpool, under the style of the Orrell Park Dental Institute.

SCOTT, A. W., and WADE, N., Woodhouse, and Intake, near Sheffield, physicians and surgeons, under the style of Scott & Wade.

The Bankruptcy Acts, 1883 and 1890.

RECEIVING ORDER.

EBERHARDT, F. C. B., Duncairn, Station Road, Wyld Green, Sutton Coldfield, surgeon.

ADJUDICATION.

EBERHARDT, F. C. B., Duncairn, Station Road, Wyld Green, Sutton Coldfield, surgeon.

BUSINESS CHANGES.

Notes for this section sent to the Editor should be authenticated, and must not be in the nature of advertisements.

BOOTS, CASH CHEMISTS, LTD., are about to open new premises in Queen Street, Cardiff.

MR. STANLEY L. PEARCE, chemist and druggist, has purchased the business of Mr. J. J. Thomas, 48 Victoria Street, Paignton, Devon.

MR. J. W. MCKINTY, chemist and druggist, has acquired the business of the late Mr. Naylor, chemist and druggist, 57 Fern Grove, Sefton Park, Liverpool.

THE CENTRAL DENTAL LABORATORIES have removed from 10 Tavistock Place, London, W.C., to more commodious premises at 272 Regent Street, London, W.

MR. H. ELDERKIN WOOD, Ph.C., has purchased the business of the late Mr. W. G. Clark, chemist and druggist, at 97 St. Albans Road, Watford.

THE BRANCH PHARMACY carried on by the executors of the late Mr. J. Stringer, pharmacist, Kingston-on-Thames, at High Street, Hampton Wick, has been closed.

MESSRS. EVANS & WORMULL, surgical-instrument manufacturers, 14 King William Street, Strand, London, W.C., announce that they are retiring from business.

MR. F. S. BOOTH, chemist and druggist, 118 Ewell Road, Surbiton, has carried out extensive alterations at his pharmacy. The shop has been enlarged, and a new modern front fitted.

MR. MARTIN W. JOHNSON, chemist and druggist, Church Street, Woodbridge, has purchased the business of John Betts & Son, Thorofare, Woodbridge. He will carry it on under the old style.

THE CHEMIST'S BUSINESS originally opened at 2 Hope Street, Wrexham, by Mr. Lewis Parry, chemist and druggist, and more recently carried on by Mr. Walter Harlow, chemist and druggist, has been acquired by Messrs. Parry-Jones, Ltd., with Mr. Harlow as managing director.

THE OLD-ESTABLISHED BUSINESS of John Betts & Son, Woodbridge, Suffolk, which Mr. F. W. Peck had been managing successfully for the trustee, has been sold, together with a portion of the stock, by the trustee, Mr. J. S. Bird, C.A., of Chelmsford and London, to Mr. Martin W. Johnson, chemist, Church Street, Woodbridge. The valuation for the trustee was carried out by Mr. John Sulley, 46 Cannon Street, London, E.C., Mr. Brown, of Messrs. Evans Sons Lescher & Webb, Ltd., acting for the purchaser. The remainder of the stock of drugs, herbs, paints, &c., was sold by auction on April 10, by Mr. John Sulley, with a very successful result, the attendance being large, and there was keen competition for most of the lots. Buyers were present not only from Ipswich and the Eastern Counties, but from London, Yorkshire, Lancashire, Cambridge, and the South Coast.

PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY.

NORTH BRITISH BRANCH.

A MEETING of the Executive of the North British Branch was held at 36 York Place, Edinburgh, on April 18. Mr. J. P. Gilmour presided.

A letter was read from Mr. J. F. Tocher, Aberdeen, thanking the Executive for their appreciation of his work as Divisional Secretary, and hoping he might still be able to render service in an unofficial capacity to the Society.

ORGANISATION.

Intimation was made that since last meeting local Associations had been formed in Banffshire, Border counties, Caithness, Dumbarton County, Elgin and Nairn, Kirkcudbrightshire, Ross and Cromarty, and Sutherlandshire. It was stated that there is now throughout Scotland practically an almost complete organisation of local Pharmaceutical Associations, although owing to difficulty in communication there are certain areas where the working of a local Association is exceedingly difficult.

Mr. SUTHERLAND asked about Argyllshire, and emphasised the importance of that county.

Mr. RUTHERFORD HILL replied that steps had been taken, and are still in progress, with a view to the organisation of chemists in Argyllshire. The scattered nature of the county and the difficulty in communication, however, make the linking of the chemists into one Association a matter of considerable practical difficulty. It was reported that Mr. Hill had attended district meetings at Perth, Berwick, Glasgow for Dumbartonshire, St. Boswells, Castle Douglas, and Dumfries.

THE NATIONAL INSURANCE ACT.

The CHAIRMAN made, *in camera*, a general explanatory statement as to work done in connection with the Insurance Act. It was pointed out that while the work of the Pharmaceutical Standing Committee is quite distinct from, and independent of, the Pharmaceutical Society, the ordinary work of the two bodies is so closely intertwined as to be practically incapable of complete separation, and the efficiency and success of the work of the Pharmaceutical Standing Committee can only be effectually secured by constant friendly co-operation. While the arrangements as to agreements and conditions of pharmacy service are primarily a matter that is being dealt with by the Pharmaceutical Standing Committee (Scotland), the Pharmaceutical Society has been called upon to discharge a very important duty involving a great amount of time and attention in conserving the interests of registered pharmacists in connection with the framing of dispensing panels so as to secure that the principles regulating the practice of pharmacy should be strictly maintained. Explanations were given as to the scheme for periodical election of the Pharmaceutical Standing Committee (Scotland); the steps that have been taken by which it has been brought out that the Insurance Commissioners will not permit the farming out of dispensing by medical practitioners; the steps which have been taken to secure that in regard to Scotland the arrangements made by the Seamen's National Insurance Society for Medical Benefit should be on the lines of medical attendance by the doctor and the supply of medicines to be obtained from chemists on the panel on the principle laid down in the National Insurance Act; the proposed scheme for the supply of medicines to insured visitors at holiday resorts and insured persons who are constantly passing from one district to another, it being stated that the matter is at present under consideration by the Insurance Commissioners; and the steps that have been taken to bring to the notice of the Chancellor of the Exchequer the great injustice to Scottish pharmacists and the great inconvenience to insured persons involved in the regulation allowing medical practitioners to claim the supply of drugs and appliances for all insured persons residing more than one mile from a chemist's shop. The question of representation of pharmacists on Insurance Committees in Scotland was also considered and the steps that had been taken to

secure this. In this connection it was moved by Mr. LENNOX, seconded by Mr. ROBERTSON, and agreed:

"That in any amending Bill of the National Insurance Act steps should be taken to secure that there shall be statutory provision for the representation of pharmacists on all Insurance Committees and District Committees."

ANNUAL REPORT.

Consideration was given, *in camera*, to the draft annual report of the Executive to the Council, and it was remitted to the Chairman for final adjustment and transmission to the Council.

It was moved by Mr. SUTHERLAND, seconded by Mr. DOIG, and agreed:

"That the next election of Executive take place on Friday, June 20, and that the Chairman and Vice-Chairman be appointed scrutineers of the voting-papers with power to add to their number."

THE LOCAL ASSOCIATIONS CONFERENCE.

Mr. HILL reported that, acting on instructions from the Council, he had communicated with all local Associations in Scotland inviting them to send delegates to the conference which has been arranged by the Council of the Society to be held in the Holborn Restaurant, London, on May 7, and also inviting them to send notice of any matters which they desire to bring up for consideration at that conference.

Mr. W. L. CURRIE said he was very pleased indeed that this conference is to take place, and that the Council has specially invited Scottish pharmacists to be present. He hoped Scottish pharmacists may be able to avail themselves of such an opportunity, as he was satisfied that much good may result to British pharmacists generally by meeting together in such a conference as this. (Applause.)

This was all the public business.

A Cure for Loneliness.

ONE of "John Bull's" readers has sent to that lively newspaper particulars of "The Progress Society," the object of which is "to banish loneliness by linking up isolated men and women everywhere into a great social body." The organ of the Society is the "Progress Journal," in which the following advertisement recently appeared:

B250 LONDON.—Pharmacist, lady, 28, broad-minded, womanly, cheerful, loves fellow men, flowers, sunshine, sea, and all beauty. Keen on country tramps, swimming, music, theatres, books, social subjects (not suffragette or crank), travelled widely, hates insincerity, snobbishness, seeks friends and correspondents, especially A's.

It should be explained that correspondence is by number, the letter "B" indicating a lady member and "A" a gentleman.

Are you lonely, Pharma-Sister? come with me then to the shop,

Where your weary Brother labours fourteen hours without a stop.

Piling up Insurance Mixtures, filing clean Insurance script, Working out Insurance prices till his cerebellum's ripped.

Are you cheerful, Pharma-Sister; do you love the sun, the sea,

Love the earth in all its beauty?—then you come along with me

To the gaudy "Pig and Faceache," where your local Brethren keep

Sacred tryst with "Organiser"—they would make an angel weep.

You have travelled, Pharma-Sister, thro' the world both far and wide,

And you fain would have Another who would tramp it by your side;

Well, you'll find young men in plenty, who would hail you Heaven-sent,

If you put a little advert. in the Orange Supplement.

TUSCAN OLIVE-CROP.—The olive-crop of Tuscany for the 1912-13 season is now harvested. The yield is about 50 per cent. of a normal crop, and the quality is about 75 per cent. of the best. The cold weather during February has had no bad effect on the outstanding olives.

CANDIDATES FOR THE PHARMACEUTICAL COUNCIL.



WILLIAM HUMPHREY GIBSON,
F.C.S.



ALBERT HAGON.



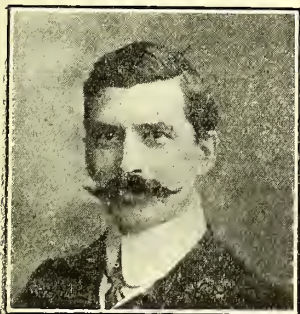
EDMUND WHITE, Ph.C., B.Sc.,
F.I.C.



JOSEPHUS TEAGUE BARRETT, Ph.C.



GEORGE WHITFIELD, Ph.C.



LEWIS MORETON PARRY.

ACCORDING to the Pharmacy Act, 1898, seven members of the Council of the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain retire annually. On the present occasion two of the retiring Councillors do not seek re-election—namely, Mr. G. T. W. Newsholme and Dr. Charles Symes. The five who seek re-election are Messrs. W. L. Currie, W. H. Gibson, R. L. Gifford, A. Hagon, and Edmund White. We give portraits of them; also of Messrs. W. G. Cross, L. M. Parry, and G. S. V. Wills, the other candidates for the vacancies.



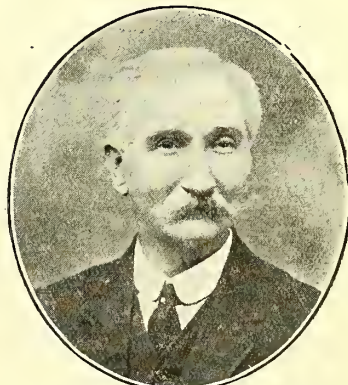
G. S. V. WILLS, Ph.C.



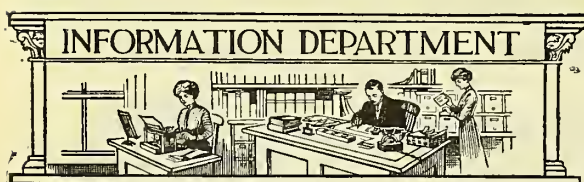
RICHARD LORD GIFFORD, Ph.C.



WILLIAM GOWEN CROSS, Ph.C.



WILLIAM LITTLE CURRIE.



Postal Address:

C. & D. INFORMATION DEPARTMENT, 42 Cannon Street, London, E.C.

Telegraphic Address: "CHEMICUS CANNON LONDON" (two words).

Telephone Number: BANK 852 (two lines).

INFORMATION WANTED.

Would any reader who knows please inform us by postcard or telephone of the names and addresses of the agents or makers of the articles mentioned in the following inquiries:

- 53/8. "Ichthamol": supply.
 49/14. "Dolly" feeder: makers.
 52/16. "Cosmydor" soap: supply.
 43/54. "Dr. Allen's Indian Saline."
 52/48. "Marvine Geloids": supply.
 39/68. Ferries' or Perries' razor-paste.
 53/21. "Gapeicide," for fowls: supply.
 48/58. "Anserol" embrocation: supply.
 53/11. "Ingram" insect-powder: makers.
 41/29. "Pinomentholine": who supplies?
 39/3. Wheat albuminoid peptone: makers.
 45/8. Grandsire's "Elixir Anti-diabetique."
 39/63. Dr. N. Bolet's "Toxicological Pills."
 52/162. "System Singer" inhaler: supply.
 43/54. "Onicide," for plant-pests: suppliers.
 41/64. "Panstrepton" flesh-brush: suppliers.
 52/160. "Germoplastin": makers or suppliers.
 46/64. Broad's poultice-bags: address of maker.
 49/6. "Kee Vee" liquid and powder: supply.
 50/56. Address of H. Labern & Sons, perfumers.
 39/22. "Toxolin" or "Toxoline"—a cattle wash.
 48/34. Lambert-Snyder vibrators: British agency.
 50/41. "Mercuride" or "Mercede" mineral water.
 50/73. "S-gaz-olo," a remedy for phthisis: supply.
 53/10. Bracher's automatic water-condenser: makers.
 52/161. Thermometer and fountain-pen combined: makers.
 51/71. "Branovin" or "Brainovin": address of makers.
 38/60. Formalin inhalers in glass and vuleanite (for pocket use).

INFORMATION SUPPLIED.

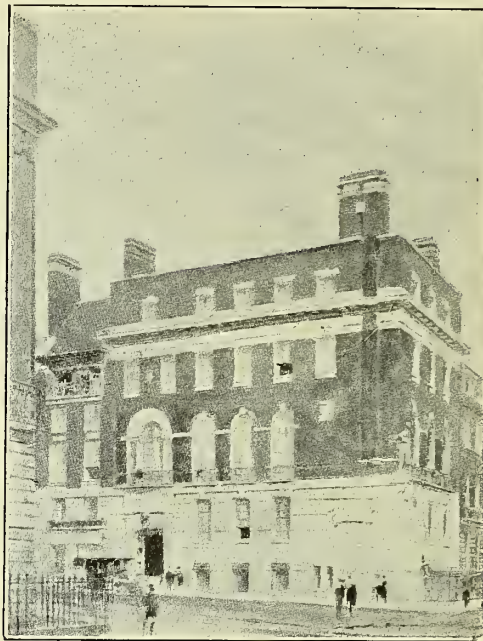
During the past week we have answered inquiries as to where the following articles are obtainable wholesale. We shall be glad to repeat the information to others who send to this Department a stamped and addressed envelope for the purpose.

- Ambrosine, 50/44
 Ampoules (filled and packed), 48/65
 Bandage-winding machinery, 52/14
 Bavarian hops, 51/69
 Boral, 48/18
 "Bromo" toilet-paper, 51/70
 Californian Syrup of Figs (Dutch inquiry), 47/33
 Calisol (for cleaning artificial teeth), 36/41
 Carter's Little Liver Pills (for Holland), 47/330
 "Cellofix" photographic paper, 43/541
 Chamberlain's cough-cure, etc. (Amsterdam), 47/331
 Chevalier Marcel's hair-vigor, 46/65
 Citric-acid plant (for Singapore), 40/35
 Clenvet, 43/54
 Coutts's acetic acid, 46/671
 Cream of tartar (ton lots), 48/61
 Crossley sputum-flask, 49/43
 De Vilbiss sprays, 45/27
 Dioxogen, 46/67
 Doan's kidney-pills (for Continental trade), 47/332
 Duval's Jaborandi and quinine hair-wash, 43/49
 Earle's fluid pepsine, 48/20
 Elliman's embrocation (for the Netherlands), 47/333
 Frozen snow (CO₂), 52/2
 Gymnemic acid, 40/11
 Hewthorn's veterinary preparations, 49/72
 Hollamby's lemonade-powder, 48/35
 Hudson's vegetable leaflets, 51/62
 Kahnemann's cachets, 47/58
 Kephaldol tablets, 52/74
 Lactalbumin, 52/3
 Lambert-Snyder vibrator, 48/34
 "Laundrine" soap, 48/170
 Liquid pepto-phosphorique (Adrian), 48/180
 Maubert's soaps, 49/34
 Molyform, 48/21 and 48/23
 Mycolysine, 46/670
 Neave's food, 48/19
 Newton Mason's linetus, 50/27
 Outside signs, 46/27
 "Pavrole" toilet-paper, 41/24
 Perodia preparations, 43/540
 Petrogell, 53/9
 Pinard's brilliantine (for Holland), 47/334
 Pink's (Dr.) cough-cure, 53/8
 Plantoids, 43/60
 Primrose ointment, 48/17
 Proctor's "Pervo," 35/4
 Protonuclein, 38/74
 Rodagen, 47/31
 "Rough on Rats," 51/700

- Sanacine, 47/33
 Shew's cameras, 41/69
 Smith's pectoral lozenges, 43/542
 Sodium sulphide, 41/72
 Sulphol, 31/55
 Swedish massage, 48/27
 "Tussano" cough-mixture, 41/231

- "Violesse" shampoo-powder, 41/28
 Wansborough's nipple-shields, 41/28
 Wetmore's "Century" throat sprays, 51/55
 Wilder's Harrogate liver-tonic, 31/43
 Willow boxes, 43/53

Institute of Chemistry Building.



The above is reproduced from a coloured sketch issued by the Institute of the proposed new buildings at the corner of Russell Square and Keppel Street, London, W.C.

A Spanish Pharmacy.



The above drawing represents a pharmacy at Aranjuez, Spain, the proprietor of which, Señor A. Martino, holds the royal appointment. The feature of the pharmacy is its two entrances, one for the pharmacy proper and the other for drugs. The absence of windows and the substitution of panelling, together with awnings, is, of course, frequent on the Continent. We may add that the upper part of the panels is of wood and the lower part of marble. The town of Aranjuez is in the Province of Madrid, and is renowned for its castle and fine park, the Spanish Court residing there in the spring.

OBSERVATIONS AND REFLECTIONS.

By Xrayser II.

A Complaint

reaches me from a friend doing a mixed trade in an important manufacturing centre which seems sufficiently typical to merit general consideration. He says the Insurance Act promises little good to him for the following reasons:

(1) He cannot effectively cope with the new work without an extra assistant, yet it is hardly sufficient to pay for one.

(2) Most of it comes in during the two busiest hours of the day, and so interferes seriously with his ordinary retail trade.

(3) It is injuring to a very considerable extent the demand for proprietaries, including his own.

Even allowing for a little unconscious exaggeration the problem thus presented is a difficult one. It seems to me there are two ways in which it may be satisfactorily dealt with, the choice between them depending on circumstances with which I am not conversant. There is the way of expansion, and there is the way of concentration. My friend should boldly engage another assistant, enlarge (if necessary and possible) or rearrange his premises so that the dispensing can really be kept separate from other business, and patients provided with waiting room (as they would be at a doctor's); and the whole business should be strung up to the highest point of efficiency, fresh energy being infused into every department. This is the heroic method, and there is much to be said for it. But the other is perhaps the more feasible, and is certainly the easier. It is to consent to the relinquishment of some of his general trade, and concentrate on dispensing.

"Our Noble Selves"

was naturally, and indeed inevitably, the burden of most of the speeches at the Commemoration Dinner at the Holborn Restaurant; for, though the speakers did not praise themselves individually, they were in the nature of the case compelled to eulogise one another and the body of pharmacists by whom they had been supported. And if ever there was a time in which self-gratulation was allowable this certainly is one of them. We have passed, not only with credit but to admiration, through such a crisis as rarely occurs in the history of any profession. By no other body so intimately affected by the Insurance Act has the same restraint and moderation been exhibited; in none has the selfish note, the voice of greed, been so completely silent; by none has there been shown so ready an acceptance of the service demanded or the terms offered. That we have been well served by our leaders and Parliamentary representatives is true, and our liberal thanks are due to them, but that is not all; there has been an active loyalty on the part of the rank and file without which the best leadership would have been useless, and the old reproach against pharmacists that they are a disunited, inert, and corporately unintelligent race can no longer be justified. We, too, as a whole, may excusably toast "our noble selves," or at any rate take a reasonable pride in our behaviour during a time of great trial.

"The Good Old Wine-bibbing Days,"

spoken of in the Retrospect last week, are much more remote to-day than they were to our fathers fifty years ago, for even in my own experience I have seen a considerable change in our ways of managing public dinners. Twenty-five years ago it was a perennial grievance to men who did not drink that they were compelled to pay a guinea for a five-shilling dinner, well knowing that they would not consume more than a couple of bottles of ginger-ale. Things are altogether changed in that respect, for now it is quite a common custom for Societies such as the Chemical and the Pharmaceutical to arrange for dinners with or without wines. I have myself frequently noted that large numbers of scientific men are water-drinkers to-day. I do not sup-

pose they are pledged abstainers or that they have any conscientious scruples one way or the other, but simply that they know from experience that they are better without alcohol in any form. One other feature in these days is the much more frequent presence of ladies at dinners than was the case a quarter of a century ago. Some dinners that I have attended in recent years would have been very poor affairs in point of sociability without the ladies; perhaps their attendance has conducted not a little to the changes that are taking place, and if this be so, their presence ought to be all the more welcome.

It is Hardly Fair

to base a comparison of the needs of London in the matter of University teaching on the supply of such teaching in Scotland, for it is well known that the Scotch Universities draw their students from every quarter of the globe, and even from London itself. This applies mainly, of course, to medical students, but even in the arts and theological "faculties" it will be found that a considerable number of foreigners and Colonials find their way to Modern Athens and to the Second City. Allowing for all this, however, I am more than surprised at the failure of the University Commission to suggest a scheme that would do something to redeem London from the reproach of being practically without a teaching University. The conglomeration of associated colleges, where science, medicine, and theology are taught, will never prove a substitute for a University, and there are too many vested interests and petty jealousies to be overcome before the medical colleges will be ready to sink their identity in order to make one great institution a success. One statement in your leader is so amazing that I almost think there must be some mistake. I can hardly conceive that only 225 students per year begin the study of medicine in London, Oxford, and Cambridge. This number is far short of what I would have expected, judging from the attendance at provincial Universities, and it almost leads to the conviction that, after all, the teaching at present provided is ample in quantity, if good enough in quality, for those who want it.

The Limits

of our medical knowledge have perhaps been more clearly demonstrated than anything else by the Patent Medicines inquiry. To charge doctors with ignorance because they prescribe drugs or preparations of drugs about which they do not know everything which might conceivably be known is not reasonable; ignorance is comparative, and if the prescriber is warranted by his observation of its effects in previous similar cases in believing it likely to be of use, he has knowledge enough, in the present state of medical science, to justify the exhibition of a remedy the exact composition of which is not known by him. Medicine is not yet, and probably never will be, entirely free from empiricism, and all science is really based on empiricism—that is to say, on observation and experience. We are still sometimes forced

"to find out poison, as the first men did,

By tasting and then suffering if we must,"

and the properties of even the best-known drugs are still so little known, and the mode of their action so obscure, that every prescription has somewhat of the character of an experiment. The "ethics" of prescribing would appear to be this: give what you have a reasonable ground for believing likely to do most good, and what better ground have we than experience over a large area? That this is the ground on which most doctors proceed is nothing to their discredit, and if they find "secret" remedies as reliable as those they are supposed to know all about (but don't) there is no reason why they should not employ them. But in that case they should not organise a campaign against such remedies. Probably we shall hear a good deal less denunciation of patents from medical men as a result of the present inquiry.

SLUGS IN GARDENS.

They have their exits and their entrances, but there is no entrance when Sanitas Powder is used. This is a fact which all retailers should take note of, and tell their customers when they want a household disinfecting powder that the "Sanitas" preparation serves a double purpose: (1) it is a reliable deodorant and microbe-killer for use in closets, drain openings, and the like; (2) to keep slugs out of the garden by sprinkling the powder all round the bottom of the fence. Mr. W. P. Wright, in *The Garden, Week by Week*, says:—"The particular hint I am going to give you about slugs is to scatter 'Sanitas' Powder on the soil amongst the plants. Slugs simply loathe it."

Since the Sanitas Company Ltd. brought these facts to the knowledge of the trade, they have noticed that many chemists have much increased their sales of Sanitas Powder and added to their incomes. Special showcards can be obtained on application to—

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PATENTS AND TRADE MARKS.

There are many worrying difficulties to be overcome in connection with the Registration of Trade Marks and the grant of Letters Patent which members of the Retail and Wholesale Drug Trade can avoid by consulting an efficient agent, who would undertake all the trouble for an inclusive fee and obtain protection in the United Kingdom and abroad. Advice in the first instance free. Pamphlets gratis.

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(REGISTERED TRADE MARKS).

New Antipyretics and Analgesics in Rheumatic Affections, Sciatica, Influenza, Common Colds and the like.

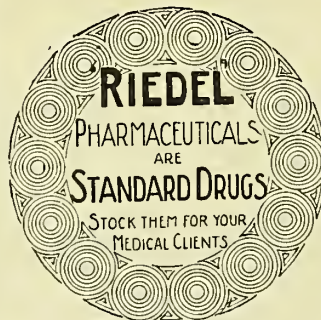
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LIQUORS

The Budget.

THE Chancellor of the Exchequer made his Budget statement in the House of Commons on Tuesday, and did not propose any new tax. The estimated expenditure for the fiscal year 1913-14 is 195,640,000l., and the income 194,825,000l.; but by taking a million from Exchequer balances the Chancellor reckons that the surplus will be 185,000l. He bases his sanguine estimates upon continuance of boom business, and greater yields from existing taxes. At present we only call attention to one passage in his speech, which we quote from "The Times," but it is confirmed by our own representative's note. Mr. Lloyd George said:

There is a substantial drop in medicine labels. (Laughter.) This is due to the fact that the sale of patent medicines fell off (cheers) largely and quite suddenly owing to the Insurance Act (cheers), and perhaps partly to the revelations of the Committee which is sitting which have shown what the ingredients of some of the more popular of these medicines are. (Laughter.)

The latter part of these remarks would have been better left unsaid, particularly as they are incorrect and refer to a matter which is *sub judice* and in a particularly delicate position.

Some Colonial Considerations.

Showing how British pharmacy has been legalised at home and abroad, and THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST'S influence has grown with it.

It is almost inconceivable to the modern mind that less than fifty years ago it was commonly felt at home that our Colonies were "an encumbrance rather than an assistance to the Mother Country," yet it was the existence of that feeling and a deep-rooted desire for better things which were the incentives to the formation of the Royal Colonial Institute, whose annual meeting last week affords us the occasion for the account of its work which is printed elsewhere in this issue. The circumstance is particularly striking to pharmacists, as they have not been behind any of the crafts and professions in the colonising genius which is characteristic of the British race. It is noteworthy also that appreciation of Colonial expansion is practically cotemporaneous with the Pharmacy Act, 1868, which is the foundation of most of the Poisons Acts of the Empire. The Arsenic Act, 1851, was before it, but the first British provisions controlling the sale of poisons generally were contained in the Medical Act of Tasmania, passed in 1842. Then came South Australia in 1862, and next in order was Bermuda with an Act in 1866 which restricted the sale of poisons to licensed persons, while in the same year Bombay, in India, obtained similar statutory powers; but these, the Arsenic Act, 1851, and the Pharmacy, of 1852, were the only statutory provisions in the Empire pertaining to the pharmacist's business at the time the Royal Colonial Institute was founded. The Pharmacy Act, 1868, gave a great impetus to pharmacy and poisons legislation in the distant parts of the Empire. Thus, in Australasia, New Zealand was the first to build upon the 1868 provisions by getting a Poisons Act in 1871, then came Victoria in 1876 with a Pharmacy Act, and in the same year New South Wales obtained a Poisons Act. The Queensland Pharmacy Act dates from 1884; in 1886 Tasmanian pharmacy was liberated from the Medical Act and got a Poisons Act. The Pharmacy and Poisons Act of Western Australia was obtained in 1894. Some of these Acts have been amended and improved during recent years. Canada's first Pharmacy Acts were obtained by Ontario and Quebec in 1871; Nova Scotia followed in 1876, Manitoba in 1878, New Brunswick in 1884, British Columbia in 1891, and the other Provinces also have pharmacy laws of their own. These great Dependencies are no longer Colonies in the strict sense of the word—Canada was the first to receive the distinct appellation of Dominion, and when the Australian Colonies federated a few years ago they became the first Commonwealth, each Colony now being designated a State. New Zealand has since become a Dominion, and the South African Colonies a Union, each of the Colonies being a Province as in Canada. Pharmacy law is comparatively recent in South Africa, the Cape statute controlling the practice of medicine, dentistry, and pharmacy having been enacted in 1891 and amended in 1899. Natal has similar provisions, and Rhodesia, by an Ordinance of 1899, requires pharmacists and poison-vendors to be licensed. Orange Free State and the Transvaal since their incorporation in the Empire have obtained laws on similar lines to those of the Cape and Natal, the fundamental principles being those of the Pharmacy Act, 1868. The Colonies proper in the West Indian Islands and British Guiana, our Mediterranean possessions, countries in the East such as Ceylon and Straits Settlements, the Fiji Islands, and other British Possessions in Africa and Asia have poison

laws calling for qualification and registration of retail vendors, and requiring observation of conditions of sale such as the Arsenic and Poisons Acts of the Mother Country inaugurated. Few of these Colonial provisions are more than a quarter of a century old, and all of them have the cognisance of Whitehall, with, occasionally, advice from Home authorities in their formation.

This broad and chronological narration of the Empire's statutes respecting the practice of pharmacy and the sale of poisons demonstrates the unity of purpose in the widely scattered sections of the Empire. If we were to seek reasons for this, the first that we would find would be that which has during the past half-century welded the Dominions across the Seas more closely with the Motherland. This has grown there and here, so that the British stamp is upon most of the laws that are made independently across the Seas. Of little less influence also is the fact that during the half-century home-trained pharmacists have been emigrating in large numbers to distant parts of the Empire, and have taken a leading place in the organisation of pharmacy wherever they have found themselves. This is specially true of Canada, Australia, and South Africa. Statistical evidence of a pharmaceutical colony in the making has recently been afforded in the report from the Transvaal, which states that the pharmaceutical qualifications of the chemists carrying on business in that Province are: Great Britain, 176; Transvaal, 49; Ireland, 14; Cape Province, 12; Natal, 12; Orange Free State, 10; Russia, 7; New Zealand, 3; Denmark, 2; New York, 2; Germany, Holland, Italy, New South Wales, and Tasmania, 1 each. Australia furnishes similar records as to the source of its pharmacists, and so do all British Dependencies, men from Home predominating, until their children born in the land of their adoption take their places, as in Canada. These observations are of special interest on the occasion of another annual Colonial Issue of THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST, for we may say without exaggeration or boasting that this journal has from its foundation had an important influence in keeping chemists beyond the Seas in touch with the Mother Country, so that they have kept pace with legislative and other progress in the trade at Home. Our founders and representatives have since 1860 travelled in the most distant parts of the Empire. Of great importance from the business point of view is the fact that THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST has been the means, and among journals almost the only means, of conserving and extending the commercial relations between Colonial buyers and the Home markets. This is due primarily to the fact that THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST is subscribed for by chemists in business in these distant parts of the Empire, and they get it week by week just as regularly as chemists at Home. We can give no better evidence of this significantly important fact than to name the towns and cities in the British Empire outside Great Britain, Ireland, and the Adjacent Islands, in which our subscribers are in business. We lay particular emphasis on the word *subscribers*. These readers of THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST pay for it annually, and do not get it unless it is paid for. We note this because far too frequently "Colonial circulation" means that free copies are sent abroad in order to give some justification for the term. Such copies are not referred to in the appended list, and it should be observed that in some of the places dozens of our subscribers are in business, and more than a hundred in a few others. We arrange the names of the places in groups, so as to permit of contraction in order to save space:

Australasian Towns and Cities

(where C. & D. subscribers are in business).

- Abbotsford, Vic.
 Adelaide, S.A.
 Adelung, N.S.W.
 Akaroa, N.Z.
 Albany, W.A.
 Albert Park, Vic.
 Albion, Queensland
 Albury, N.S.W.
 Aldgate, S.A.
 Alexandria, N.S.W.
 Allora, Queensland
 Annandale, N.S.W.
 Araluen, N.S.W.
 Ardlethan, N.S.W.
 Armadale, Vic.
 Armdale, N.S.W.
 Ascot Vale, Vic.
 Ashburton, N.Z.
 Ashfield, N.S.W.
 Auburn, Vic.
 Auckland, N.Z.
 Avoca, Vic.
 Ayer, Queensland
 Bairnsdale, Vic.
 Balaclava, Vic.
 Balaklava, S.A.
 Balclutha, N.Z.
 Ballarat, Vic.
 Balmain, N.S.W.
 Bangalow, N.S.W.
 Barraba, N.S.W.
 Bathurst, N.S.W.
 Beaconsfield, N.S.W.
 Beaconsfield, Tasmania
 Beaudesert, Queensland
 Beechworth, Vic.
 Beecroft, N.S.W.
 Bega, N.S.W.
 Bellingen, N.S.W.
 Benalla, Vic.
 Bendigo, Vic.
 Beverley, W.A.
 Blackall, Queensland
 Blackheath, N.S.W.
 Blayney, N.S.W.
 Blenheim, N.Z.
 Boggabri, N.S.W.
 Bombala, N.S.W.
 Bondi, N.S.W.
 Boonah, Queensland
 Border Town, S.A.
 Botany, N.S.W.
 Boulder City, W.A.
 Bowen, Queensland
 Bowraville, N.S.W.
 Box Hill, Vic.
 Braidwood, N.S.W.
 Brewarrina, N.S.W.
 Bridgetown, W.A.
 Bright, Vic.
 Brighton, Vic.
 Brisbane, Queensland
 Broadford, Vic.
 Broken Hill, N.S.W.
 Broome, W.A.
 Bulimba, Queensland
 Bulli, N.S.W.
 Bunbury, W.A.
 Bundaberg, Queensland
 Burwood, N.S.W.
 Busselton, W.A.
 Cairns, Queensland
 Camberwell, Vic.
 Campbelltown, N.S.W.
 Campbelltown, Tasmania
 Camsside, N.S.W.
 Camperie, N.S.W.
 Canberrga, N.S.W.
 Canowindra, N.S.W.
 Canterbury, N.Z.
 Carlton, Vic.
 Carterton, N.Z.
 Casino, N.S.W.
 Casterton, Vic.
 Castlemaine, Vic.
 Caulfield, Vic.
 Caversham, N.Z.
 Chesnock, N.S.W.
 Charleville, Queensland
- Charlton, Vic.
 Charters Towers, Queensland
 Chatswood, N.S.W.
 Cheltenham, Vic.
 Childers, Queensland
 Chillagoe, N. Queensland
 Christchurch, N.Z.
 Clare, S.A.
 Claremont, W.A.
 Clermont, Queensland
 Clifton Hill, Vic.
 Cloncurry, Queensland
 Cobar, N.S.W.
 Coburg, Vic.
 Colac, Vic.
 Coleraine, Vic.
 Collie, W.A.
 Collingwood, Vic.
 Condoobolin, N.S.W.
 Coonamundra, N.S.W.
 Coogee, N.S.W.
 Cooktown, Queensland
 Coolamon, N.S.W.
 Coolgardie, W.A.
 Cooma, N.S.W.
 Coonabarabran, N.S.W.
 Coonamble, N.S.W.
 Coorparoo, Queensland
 Cootesloe Beach, W.A.
 Corryong, Vic.
 Cowra, N.S.W.
 Cronulla, N.S.W.
 Crookwell, N.S.W.
 Crow's Nest, Queensland
 Croydon, Queensland
 Croydon, N.S.W.
 Cudal, N.S.W.
 Cue, W.A.
 Culcairn, N.S.W.
 Cunnamulla, Queensland
 Dalby, Queensland
 Dannevirke, N.Z.
 Dargaville, N.Z.
 Darlinghurst, N.S.W.
 Darlington, N.S.W.
 Daylesford, Vic.
 Deniliquin, N.S.W.
 Devonport, Tasmania
 Doll's Point, N.S.W.
 Donald, Vic.
 Double Bay, N.S.W.
 Drummoyne, N.S.W.
 Dubbo, N.S.W.
 Dulwich Hill, N.S.W.
 Dunedin, N.Z.
 Dungog, N.S.W.
 Dunwich, Queensland
 Eaglehawk, Vic.
 East Charlton, Vic.
 East Maitland, N.S.W.
 East Malvern, Vic.
 East Melbourne, Vic.
 East Prahran, Vic.
 East York, W.A.
 Eastwood, N.S.W.
 Echuca, Vic.
 Edgecliffe, N.S.W.
 Ekotahuna, N.Z.
 Ellerslie, N.Z.
 Elsternwick, Vic.
 Eltham, N.Z.
 Emmaville, N.S.W.
 Enmore, N.S.W.
 Esk, Queensland
 Emdlo, Queensland
 Evandale, Tasmania
 Exeter, S.A.
 Fairlie, N.Z.
 Featherstone, N.Z.
 Fielding, N.Z.
 Finiston, W.A.
 Fitzroy, Vic.
 Footscray, Vic.
 Forbes, N.S.W.
 Forest Lodge, N.S.W.
 Fortitude Valley, Queensland
 Franklin Harbour, S.A.
 Fremantle, W.A.
 Gatton, Queensland
- Gawler, S.A.
 Geelong, Vic.
 Georgetown, Queensland
 Geraldton, W.A.
 Geralton, N. Queensland
 Germanton, N.S.W.
 Gilgandra, N.S.W.
 Gippsland, Vic.
 Gisborne, N.Z.
 Gladstone, Queensland
 Glebe, N.S.W.
 Glenelg, S.A.
 Glen Innes, N.S.W.
 Goodwood, S.A.
 Goolwa, S.A.
 Goondiwindi, Queensland
 Gordon, N.S.W.
 Gore, N.Z.
 Goulburn, N.S.W.
 Grafton, N.S.W.
 Granville, N.S.W.
 Green Bushes, W.A.
 Grenfell, N.S.W.
 Greymouth, N.Z.
 Greytown, N.Z.
 Guildford, W.A.
 Gulgong, N.S.W.
 Gundagai, N.S.W.
 Gunnedah, N.S.W.
 Guyra, N.S.W.
 Gympie, Queensland
 Haberfield, N.S.W.
 Hamilton, N.S.W.
 Hamilton, Vic.
 Hastings, N.Z.
 Havelock, N.Z.
 Hawera, N.Z.
 Hawke's Bay, N.Z.
 Hawker, S.A.
 Heidelberg, Vic.
 Helensville, N.Z.
 Henley Beach, S.A.
 Henty, N.S.W.
 Hillgrove, N.S.W.
 Hilleston, N.S.W.
 Hindmarsh, S.A.
 Hobart, Tasmania
 Hokitika, N.Z.
 Homebush, N.S.W.
 Hornsby, N.S.W.
 Horsham, Vic.
 Hughenden, Queensland
 Hunters Hill, N.S.W.
 Hurstville, N.S.W.
 Inglewood, Vic.
 Inglewood, Queensland
 Invercargill, N.Z.
 Inverell, N.S.W.
 Inveresk, Tasmania
 Ipswich, Queensland
 Ivanhoe, Vic.
 Jamestown, S.A.
 Kadina, S.A.
 Kaiapoi, N.Z.
 Kaitake Valley, N.Z.
 Kaitangata, N.Z.
 Kalgoorlie, W.A.
 Kanowna, W.A.
 Kapunda, S.A.
 Karangahake, N.Z.
 Katanning, W.A.
 Katoomba, N.S.W.
 Kellerberrin, W.A.
 Kempsey, N.S.W.
 Kensington, Vic.
 Kensington, S.A.
 Kent Town, S.A.
 Kerang, Vic.
 Kew, Vic.
 Kiama, N.S.W.
 Killara, N.S.W.
 Kingaroy, Queensland
 Koorinda, S.A.
 Koroit, Vic.
 Koroimbura, Vic.
 Kvahram, Vic.
 Laidley, Queensland
 Latrobe, Tasmania
 Launceston, Tasmania
 Laura, S.A.
 Lautoka, Fiji
 Leederville, W.A.
- Leeston, N.Z.
 Leichhardt, N.S.W.
 Leongatha, Vic.
 Leonora, W.A.
 Leura, N.S.W.
 Levin, N.Z.
 Lewisham, N.S.W.
 Linfield, N.S.W.
 Lismore, N.S.W.
 Lithgow, N.S.W.
 Liverpool, N.S.W.
 Longford, Tasmania
 Longreach, Queensland
 Lovett, Tasmania
 Mackay, Queensland
 Maclean, N.S.W.
 Maldon, Vic.
 Malvern, S.A.
 Malvern, Vic.
 Manila, N.S.W.
 Manly, N.S.W.
 Mannum, S.A.
 Mansfield, Vic.
 Mareeba, Queensland
 Marlborough, N.Z.
 Marrickville, N.S.W.
 Martinborough, N.Z.
 Maryborough, Vic.
 Maryborough, Queensland
 Masterton, N.Z.
 Mathinna, Tasmania
 Maylands, W.A.
 Medindie, S.A.
 Meekatharra, W.A.
 Melbourne, Vic.
 Menzies, W.A.
 Middle Brighton, Vic.
 Middle Park, Vic.
 Midland Junction, W.A.
 Mildura, Vic.
 Mile End, S.A.
 Millicent, S.A.
 Milthorpe, N.S.W.
 Milton, N.Z.
 Minyip, Vic.
 Molong, N.S.W.
 Moonee Ponds, Vic.
 Moonta, S.A.
 Moree, N.S.W.
 Moreton, Queensland
 Mornington, N.Z.
 Mosgiel, N.Z.
 Mosman, N.S.W.
 Moss Vale, N.S.W.
 Moteuka, N.Z.
 Mount Eden, N.Z.
 Mount Gambier, S.A.
 Mount Morgan, Queensland
 Mudgee, N.S.W.
 Mungindi, N.S.W.
 Murgon, Queensland
 Murray Bridge, S.A.
 Murrumburrah, N.S.W.
 Murtoa, Vic.
 Murwillumbah, N.S.W.
 Nagambie, Vic.
 Napier, N.Z.
 Narandera, N.S.W.
 Narrabri, N.S.W.
 Narracoorte, S.A.
 Narrogin, W.A.
 Nathalia, Vic.
 Nelson, N.Z.
 Neutral Bay, N.S.W.
 Newcastle, N.S.W.
 Newcastle, W.A.
 New England, N.S.W.
 New Norfolk, Tasmania
 New Plymouth, N.Z.
 Newport, Vic.
 Newtown, N.S.W.
 Newtown, N.Z.
 Newtown, Tasmania
 Noosa, W.A.
 Normanton, Queensland
 Norseman, W.A.
 North Botany, N.S.W.
 North Brighton, Vic.
 North Carlton, Vic.
 North East Valley, N.Z.
 North Fitzroy, Vic.
 North Melbourne, Vic.

North Northwood, S.A.
 North Perth, W.A.
 North Sydney, N.S.W.
 North Unley, S.A.
 Northam, W.A.
 Northcote, Vic.
 Norwood, S.A.
 Nowra, N.S.W.
 Numurkah, Vic.
 Nurioopta, S.A.
 Oakey, Queensland
 Oakleigh, Vic.
 Oamaru, N.Z.
 Oatlands, Tasmania
 Ohaeawai, N.Z.
 Ohakune, N.Z.
 Oheunga, N.Z.
 Opunake, N.Z.
 Orange, N.S.W.
 Orreroo, S.A.
 Otago, N.Z.
 Paddington, N.S.W.
 Pahiatua, N.Z.
 Palmerston North, N.Z.
 Palmerston South, N.Z.
 Pambula, N.S.W.
 Parkes, N.S.W.
 Parkside, S.A.
 Parnell, N.Z.
 Parramatta, N.S.W.
 Patea, N.Z.
 Payneham, S.A.
 Peak Hill, N.S.W.
 Peakhurst, N.S.W.
 Penrith, N.S.W.
 Penshurst, Vic.
 Perth, W.A.
 Petersburg, S.A.
 Petersham, N.S.W.
 Petone, N.Z.
 Petries Birt, Queensland
 Picton, N.Z.
 Picton, N.S.W.
 Pingelly, W.A.
 Pinnaroo, S.A.
 Pittsworth, Queensland
 Port Adelaide, S.A.
 Port Ahuriri, N.Z.
 Port Augusta, S.A.
 Port Chalmers, N.Z.
 Port Fairy, Vic.
 Port Hedland, W.A.
 Portland, Vic.
 Port Melbourne, Vic.
 Port Pirie, S.A.
 Prahran, Vic.
 Preston, Vic.
 Proserpine, Queensland
 Prospect, S.A.
 Pyrmont, N.S.W.
 Queanbeyan, N.S.W.
 Queenstown, N.Z.
 Queenstown, Tasmania
 Quirindi, N.S.W.
 Quorn, S.A.
 Randwick, N.S.W.
 Rangiora, N.Z.
 Redcliffe, Queensland
 Redfern, N.S.W.
 Redhill, Queensland
 Reefton, N.Z.
 Renmark, S.A.
 Richmond, N.S.W.
 Richmond, Vic.
 Rochdale, N.S.W.
 Rochester, Vic.
 Rockdale, N.S.W.
 Rockhampton, Queensland
 Roma, Queensland
 Rotorua, N.Z.
 Roxburgh, N.Z.
 Rozelle, N.S.W.
 Rutherglen, Vic.
 Ryde, N.S.W.
 Rylstone, N.S.W.
 St. Arnaud, Vic.
 St. Kilda, Vic.
 St. Kilda East, Vic.
 St. Peter's, N.S.W.
 St. Peter's, S.A.
 Sandgate, Queensland
 Sandringham, N.S.W.
 Sandringham, Vic.

Sandstone, W.A.
 Scottsdale, Tasmania
 Sealake, Vic.
 Semaphore, S.A.
 Sheffield, Tasmania
 Shepparton, Vic.
 Singleton, N.S.W.
 South Brisbane, Queensland
 South Dunedin, N.Z.
 South Melbourne, Vic.
 South Port, Queensland
 South Yarra, Vic.
 Southern Cross, W.A.
 Stanley, Tasmania
 Stanmore, N.S.W.
 Stanthorpe, Queensland
 Stratford, N.Z.
 Strathalbyn, S.A.
 Strathfield, N.S.W.
 Subiaco, W.A.
 Summer Hill, N.S.W.
 Surry Hills, N.S.W.
 Sutherland, N.S.W.
 Suva, Fiji
 Sydenham, N.Z.
 Sydney, N.S.W.
 Taihape, N.Z.
 Talbot, Vic.
 Tamworth, N.S.W.
 Tanunda, S.A.
 Taranaki, N.Z.
 Taree, N.S.W.
 Te Awamutu, N.Z.
 Temora, N.S.W.
 Teneriffe, Queensland
 Tenterfield, N.S.W.
 Terang, Vic.
 Thames, N.Z.
 Thursday Island, Queensland
 Timaru, N.Z.
 Tingha, N.S.W.
 Tonga, N.Z.
 Toorak, Vic.
 Toowoong, Queensland
 Toowoomba, Queensland
 Torrensfield, S.A.
 Townsville, Queensland
 Traralgon, Vic.
 Tuakau, N.Z.
 Tumby Bay, S.A.
 Turrumurra, N.S.W.
 Ulney Park, S.A.
 Ultimo, N.S.W.
 Ulverstone, Tasmania
 Unley, S.A.
 Uraidla, S.A.
 Wagga-Wagga, N.S.W.
 Wagon, W.A.
 Waihi, N.Z.
 Waikato, N.Z.
 Waikouaiti, N.Z.
 Waimate, N.Z.
 Waipawa, N.Z.
 Waipukurau, N.Z.
 Wairoa, N.Z.
 Waitara, N.S.W.
 Waitara, N.Z.
 Waiuku, N.Z.
 Walcha, N.S.W.
 Wallaroo, S.A.
 Wanganui, N.Z.
 Wangaratta, Vic.
 Warialda, N.S.W.
 Warracknabeal, Vic.
 Warragul, Vic.
 Warrnambool, Vic.
 Warwick, Queensland
 Waterloo, N.S.W.
 Wauchope, N.S.W.
 Waverley, N.Z.
 Waverley, N.S.W.
 Wellington, N.S.W.
 Wellington, N.Z.
 West Devon Port, Tasmania
 West Maitland, N.S.W.
 West Wyalong, N.S.W.
 Westbury, Tasmania
 Westport, N.Z.
 Whangarei, N.Z.
 Williamstown, Vic.
 Windsor, N.S.W.
 Windsor, Vic.
 Wingham, N.S.W.

Winton, Queensland
 Wirrega Siding, S.A.
 Wodonga, Vic.
 Wollongong, N.S.W.
 Wondai, Queensland
 Wonthaggi, Vic.
 Woodend, Vic.
 Wood's Point, Vic.
 Woodville, N.Z.
 Woollahra, N.S.W.
 Woolloongabba, Queensland

Wyalong, N.S.W.
 Wynyard, Tasmania
 Yackandandah, Vic.
 Yanan Park, N.S.W.
 Yarra Bend, Vic.
 Yarram, Vic.
 Yarrowonga, Vic.
 York Pen, S.A.
 York, W.A.
 Yorktown, S.A.
 Zeehan, Tasmania

Towns and Cities in the African Continent
 (where C. & D. subscribers are in business).

Abeokuta, West Africa
 Aberdeen, Cape
 Accra, W.A.
 Adelaide, Cape
 Alexandria, Egypt
 Alwal North, Cape
 Amersfoot, Transvaal
 Barberton, Transvaal
 Barkly West, Cape
 Beaconsfield, Cape
 Beaufort West, Cape
 Bellevue, Transvaal
 Bende, Southern Nigeria
 Benoni, Transvaal
 Berea, Natal
 Bertrams, Transvaal
 Bethal, Transvaal
 Bethlehem, O.F.S.
 Bezuidenhout Valley, Transvaal
 Bloemfontein, O.F.S.
 Boksburg, Transvaal
 Bonini, Transvaal
 Braamfontein, Transvaal
 Brakpan, Transvaal
 Brandfoot, O.F.S.
 Bulawayo, Rhodesia
 Bulkeley, Ramleh, Egypt
 Burghersdorp, Cape
 Burghershoop, Transvaal
 Butterworth, Cape
 Cairo, Egypt
 Caledon, Cape
 Cape Town, Cape
 Cathcart, Cape
 Claremont, Cape
 Cleveland, Transvaal
 Coomassie, Ashanti
 Cradock, Cape
 Denver, Transvaal
 Doornfontein, Transvaal
 Dundee, Natal
 Durban, Natal
 East London, Cape
 El Obeid, Kordofan
 Elandsblaagte, Natal
 Entebbe, Uganda
 Ermelo, Transvaal
 Ficksburg, O.F.S.
 Florida, Transvaal
 Fordsburg, Transvaal
 Freetown, Sierra Leone
 Gatooma, S. Rhodesia
 George, Cape
 Germiston, Transvaal
 Graaf Reinet, Cape
 Grahamstown, Cape
 Green Point, Cape
 Greytown, Natal
 Griquatown, Cape
 Gwelo, Rhodesia
 Hanover, Cape
 Hartley, Rhodesia
 Heidelberg, Transvaal
 Heilbron, O.F.S.
 Hill Brow, Transvaal
 Howick, Natal
 Ikotobo, S. Nigeria
 Indwe, Cape
 Jagersfontein, O.F.S.
 Jeppestown, Transvaal
 Johannesburg, Transvaal
 Kalk Bay, Cape
 Kassala, Sudan
 Kenilworth, Cape
 Khartoum, Sudan
 Kimberley, Cape
 King William's Town, Cape
 Kokstad, Cape
 Kroonstad, O.F.S.
 Krugersdorp, Transvaal
 Ladismith, Cape
 Ladybrand, O.F.S.
 Ladysmith, Natal
 Lagos, W.A.
 Laagslaagte, Transvaal
 Livingstone, N.W. Province
 Lucalla, W.A.
 Lydenburg, Transvaal
 Mateking, Bechuanaland
 Maitland, Cape
 Malmesbury, Cape
 Malvern, Natal
 Mansourah, Egypt
 Maraisburg, Transvaal
 Matatiele, Griqualand
 Middelburg, Cape
 Middleburg, Transvaal
 Molteno, Cape
 Mombasa, B.E.A.
 Mowbray, Cape
 Muizenberg, Cape
 Nairobi, B.E.A.
 Nditia, Qua Iboe River, S. Nigeria
 Newcastle, Natal
 New Clare, Transvaal
 Nigel, Transvaal
 Norwood, Transvaal
 Nylstroom, Transvaal
 Observatory, Cape
 Ophirton, Transvaal
 Olifantsfontein, Transvaal
 Oudtshoorn, Cape
 Paarl, Cape
 Parow, Cape
 Pietermaritzburg, Natal
 Pietersburg, Transvaal
 Pilgrim's Rest, Transvaal
 Pont Di Koubbeh, Egypt
 Port Elizabeth, Cape
 Port Sudan, Red Sea
 Potchefstroom, Transvaal
 Potgietersrust, Transvaal
 Pretoria, Transvaal
 Qua Iboe, W.A.
 Que Que, Rhodesia
 Queenstown, Cape
 Quigney, Cape
 Quthing, Basutoland
 Randfontein, Transvaal
 Red Hill, Natal
 Ringfontein, Cape
 Robertson, Cape
 Rondebosch, Cape
 Roodepoort, Transvaal
 Rustenburg, Transvaal
 St Helena
 Salisbury, Rhodesia
 Sea Point, Cape
 Selukwe, Rhodesia
 Shebine-el-Kom, Egypt
 Simon's Town, Cape
 Somerset East, Cape
 Somerset Strand, Cape
 Somerset West, Cape
 Springs, Transvaal
 Standerton, Transvaal
 Stellenbosch, Cape
 Sterkstroom, Cape
 Steynsburg, Cape
 Suakim, Sudan
 Suhag, Upper Egypt
 Tanta, Egypt
 Tarkastad, Cape
 Tongaat, Natal
 Troville, Transvaal
 Turfontein, Transvaal

Uitenhage, Cape
Umtali, Rhodesia
Umtata, Cape
Utrecht, Natal
Van Ryn, Transvaal
Vereeniging, Transvaal
Verulam, Natal
Victoria, Rhodesia
Volksrust, Transvaal
Vrededorp, Transvaal

Vryburg, Cape
Vryheid, Natal
West Krugersdorp, Trans-
vaal
Willowmore, Cape
Winburg, O.F.S.
Woodstock, Cape
Worcester, Cape
Wynberg, Cape
Yeoville, Transvaal

Towns and Cities in Asia

(where C. & D. subscribers are in business).

Agra, India
Ahmedabad, India
Allahabad, India
Amritsar, India
Anarkali, India
Bangalore, India
Barcelly, India
Baroda Camp, India
Bassein, Burma
Batu Anam, F.M.S.
Bombay, India
Byculla, India
Calcutta, India
Cawnpore, India
Colombo, Ceylon
Dadar, India
Darjeeling, India
Dehra Dun, India
Dibrugarh, India
Dickoya, Ceylon
Egmore, India
Etawah, India
Farrackabad, India
Fort Bombay, India
Galle, Ceylon
George Town, Madras
Ghazipur, India
Girgaum Post, India
Girgaun, India
Hatton, Ceylon
Hazratganj, India
Hong-Kong
Hyderabad, India
Indore, India
Ipoh, Perak, F.M.S.
Jacobabad, India
Jubbulpore, India
Jullundur City, India
Kalbadevi, India
Kandy, Ceylon
Karachi, India
Konnagur, India
Kuala Lumpur, F.M.S.
Kurrachee, India

Lahore, India
Lucknow, India
Ludhiana, India
Madanpore, India
Madras, India
Mainpuri, India
Mandalay, Burmah
Mangalore, Madras
Mazagaon, India
Merakibol, Johore, S.S.
Mirzapore, India
Muar, S.S.
Mungpoo, India
Murree, India
Mussoorie, India
Naini-Tal, India
Navsari, India
Negri Sembilan, F.M.S.
Nuwara-Eliya, Ceylon
Ootacamund, India
Paradeniya, Ceylon
Penang, S.S.
Perak, F.M.S.
Peshawar, India
Poona, India
Quetta, India
Sadiya, India
Sandakan, North Borneo
Sauli Mandvi, Punjab, India
Selangor, F.M.S.
Shipur-Howrah, Bengal
Sibpur, India
Simla, India
Singapore, S.S.
Slave Island, Ceylon
Sonada, Bengal
Sringer, Kashmir, India
Sungei Ujong, F.M.S.
Tangkak, Muar, S.S.
Tanjore, India
Tarn Taran, India
Thakurdwar, India
Zella, Kathiawar, India

Landis, Sask., Canada
Lethbridge, Canada
Lucea, Jamaica
Manchioneal, Jamaica
Mayoro, Trinidad
Moncague, Jamaica
Montreal, Canada
New Glasgow, Canada
Niagara Falls, Canada
Ottawa, Canada
Perth, Ont., Canada
Port Antonio, Jamaica
Port of Spain, Trinidad
Prince Town, Trinidad
Regina, Sask., Canada
River Qui Barre, Canada
St. George's, Grenada
St. John, Canada

St. John's, Newfoundland
St. Lucia, W.I.
St. Vincent, W.I.
San Fernando, Trinidad
Santiago de los Caballeros,
W.I.
Saskatchewan, Canada
Seaforth, Canada
Soufrière, St. Lucia, W.I.
Spanish Town, Jamaica
Tobago, W.I.
Toronto, Canada
Trinidad, W.I.
Vancouver, Canada
Victoria, Canada
Winnipeg, Canada
Zealandia, Canada

One of the purposes of the present Colonial Issue is to still further extend these lists—unequalled, we believe, among the trade-journals of the world. So we are circulating this issue to some hundreds of other places, chiefly those from which we have had business inquiries, or in such goods as are advertised in *THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST* from week to week. Those who appeal to such buyers through our columns know how responsive our subscribers are as good buyers, and we trust that in the continued expansion of British trade abroad our supporters may have a full share.

Exporting Eau de Cologne.

THE Customs authorities have informed a leading wholesale house that in exporting eau de Cologne under drawback the alcohol cannot be determined by the density of the liquid, and that it must be estimated by the process described in the "Journal of the Chemical Society," 83, p. 314. This is the process for the estimation of ethyl alcohol in essences and medicinal preparations by Sir Thomas Edward Thorpe and Mr. John Holmes. We append particulars of the process, so that they may be readily available to all connected with the drug-trade:

In estimating the amount of spirit in medicinal preparations such as tinctures of aconite, arnica, belladonna, capsicum, calumba, the distillation of a strong spirituous liquid into its own volume becomes practically impossible. It is practicable to distil a strong spirituous liquid into twice its own volume within the requisite degree of accuracy, but distillation into four times the initial volume is perfectly easy. Essential oils and volatile substances must be removed before the spirit can be estimated with any approach to accuracy. Included in this category are ether, chloroform, benzaldehyde, camphor, santal oil, castor oil, ethyl and amyl acetates and butyrates, and the essential oils of lemon, rosemary, juniper, celery, cloves, and peppermint. The treatment in use in the Government Laboratory, which has been found of very general applicability, is as follows:

Twenty-five c.c. of the sample, measured at 60° F. (155° C.), is mixed with water in a separator to a bulk of 100 to 150 c.c., and common salt is added in sufficient quantity to saturate the liquid. The mixture is now shaken vigorously for five minutes with from 50 to 80 c.c. of light petroleum, boiling below 60° C., and after standing for about half an hour the lower layer is drawn off into another separator, extracted, if necessary, a second time with petroleum, and then drawn off into a distillation flask. Meanwhile the petroleum layers are washed successively with 25 c.c. of saturated common salt solution and the washings added to the main bulk, which is neutralised if necessary, then distilled, and the distillate made up to 100 c.c.

That the whole of the alcohol is recovered by this process has been proved by direct experiment. In the greater number of cases (essences of lemon, juniper, peppermint, and santal oil preparations) a single extraction with petroleum is sufficient. In preparations containing camphor, 25 c.c. of normal sulphuric acid is used instead of common salt, and a single extraction with petroleum is made. Before distilling it is desirable to neutralise sulphuric acid with caustic soda. In preparations containing ammonia the liquid to be distilled must be slightly acid.

Besides these there are forty cities and towns in China, Japan, and other Eastern countries, not British, in which we have regular subscribers in each. (As we write, an important native firm in Japan subscribe for each of their branches in seven of the cities.) In some cases these, of course, include British houses, but native druggists and pharmacists also subscribe. This also may be said of the next group of cities and towns, which is strictly confined to British Possessions, although in these regions *THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST* is subscribed for by pharmaceutical citizens of the Republic, just as it is also in hundreds of towns on the Continent of Europe:

British Cities and Towns in the New World

(where C. & D. subscribers are in business).

Alberta, Canada
Antigua, W.I.
Arima, Trinidad
Barbados, W.I.
Beaulieu Village, Trinidad
Belize, British Honduras
Belleville, Barbados
Belmont, Trinidad
Brantford, Canada
Buff Bay, Jamaica
Calgary, Canada
Castries, St. Lucia, W.I.
Cedros, Trinidad
Central Park, near Van-
couver, B.C., Canada

Claremont, Jamaica
Cranbrook, Canada
Dominica, W.I.
Donard, Christianity, Jamaica
Erie, Canada
Gayle, Jamaica
Georgetown, British Guiana
Green Island, Jamaica
Halifax, Nova Scotia
Ireland Isle, Bermuda
Kellihier, Sask., Canada
Kingston, Jamaica
Kingston, Canada
Kingstown, St. Vincent
La Brca, Trinidad

The process has, we understand, been worked in manufacturers' laboratories, and the results confirm the Government Chemists' observations.

Hypnotics on the Poison Schedule.

Both the "British Medical Journal" and the journal of the Pharmaceutical Society contained articles last week on the scheduling of hypnotics. Neither of these adds any fresh information to the articles which appeared in THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST of March 16, 1912, and March 15, 1913, and it is apparent that both the commentaries are based on our articles. The exposition promised by the Vice-President of the Pharmaceutical Society has not yet materialised, and we are not surprised in view of the difficulties in applying the terms of the scheduling resolution to hypnotics on the market. We notice that the two articles mentioned above fail to indicate which ureides and urethanes are poisonous. The list given in our issue of March 22 is still the most complete of any yet published.

Price Protection in South Africa.

In a conversation with a South African pharmacist, we learn that progress is being made in respect to the protection of the prices of proprietary medicines and other chemists' articles in South Africa. The founders of the movement in Cape Town are determined not to rush the matter, and they are quite alive to the difficulties in fixing prices which will meet the wishes of retailers and wholesalers so widely situated, and trading under such different conditions as the confines of the Union afford, but it is expected that a great deal will be done before the end of the year, when the first list of protected proprietaries will be published. It is intended that there should be separate scales for Rhodesia and the Transvaal in order to meet the enhanced charges, such as transport, incurred in these places.

DEED OF ARRANGEMENT.

Hume, Robert, 88 Oxtow Road and 8 Belmont, Birkenhead, Chemist and Druggist.—Trustees: P. S. Booth, 2 Bixteth Street, Liverpool, accountant, and another. Dated, April 16; filed, April 21. Liabilities unsecured, 804*l.*; estimated net assets, 462*l.* The creditors include J. F. Bristow & Co., Ltd. (10*l.*); F. Hume, Cramlington (418*l.*); Eueryl, Ltd., Hull (10*l.*); Ayrton, Saunders & Co., Ltd., Liverpool (19*l.*); Clay, Dod & Co., Liverpool (20*l.*); R. Sumner & Co., Ltd., Liverpool (50*l.*); J. Thompson, Ltd., Liverpool (81*l.*); Yardley & Co., Ltd., Stratford (15*l.*).

BANKRUPTCY REPORTS.

Re W. Baker, lately trading as W. Baker & Co., Bristol, Wholesale Druggist.—The trustee reports that the estate has been realised, and the balance available, after meeting the costs and the preferential claims, will enable the unsecured creditors to receive a first and final dividend of 3*s.* 4½*d.* in the pound.

Re Bulteaux & Co. (L. G. A. Bulteaux, trading as), 21 Mincing Lane, London, E.C., Produce Merchants and Brokers.—The first meeting of creditors in this case was held at the London Bankruptcy Court, before Mr. Walter Boyle, Official Receiver, on April 21. The statement of affairs was not lodged, but it appeared that the unsecured liabilities were roughly estimated at 4,000*l.*, and the assets were of doubtful value. The Chairman reported that it appeared from the debtor's statements that he commenced business as a produce agent at the above address four and a-half years ago, with 250*l.* free capital and no debts. He traded in his own name until two years ago, when he added the "& Co.," and commenced to take goods on consignment and added the merchants' and brokers' branch of the business. On January 21 last, being in financial difficulties, he sold the business for 4,000*l.* to M. Louis Galard, of Paris, the goodwill being valued at 2,300*l.* The purchase-price was payable in bills, which the debtor intended to give to his creditors in satisfaction of their claims, but M. Galard had repudiated the transaction, and refused to carry on the business, which was now closed. The debtor attributed his failure to the dock strikes, inferior oil supplied, and bad debts. The meeting was adjourned for a fortnight, with the view to an offer being submitted to the creditors.

SUDAN ACACIA GUMS:

Their Collection and Commerce, with Original Photographs.

By Stanley F. Ward.

AS large quantities of acacia gum, commonly called Kordofair sorts, are being imported adulterated with gums other than true Hachab Kordofan gum, perhaps some information with regard to the quality of acacias from the various districts of the Sudan may be of interest.

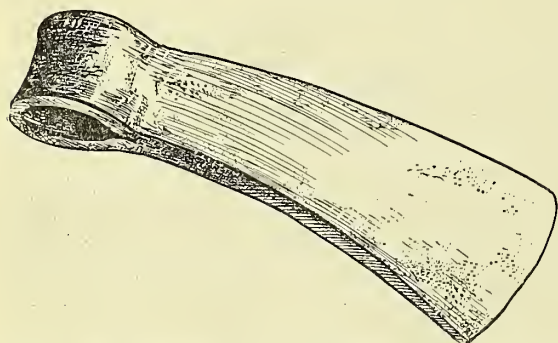
The gums which are gathered in the Anglo-Egyptian Sudan are divided into two very distinct categories, viz.: (1) The gum which exudes from *Acacia Vereh* or, as the natives call it, Hachab; (2) the gum which exudes from *Acacia Seyal*, both white and red. This is sometimes called "Acacia Talka." These two grades are known and are sold only under their native denomination.

"*Gum Hachab*."—According to the cultivation of the tree and the nature of the soil, the Hachab gum is divided in the Sudan into two grades or qualities—namely, (1) true Hachab gum (properly so-called), (2) Hachab Gezireh gum. The first gum, Hachab, is the exudation of the cultivated trees, and the second, Hachab Gezireh, comes from the district where the natives do not cultivate the trees, and naturally these two differ in value and are sold at different prices. To go more carefully into this gum, the Hachab description—i.e., from the cultivated tree—should again be divided into two other varieties. The first is collected in the district of Gedareff and Mafaza, where the Hachab tree is cultivated in a district where the soil is very rich, being black earth formed by the alluvions of the Blue Nile and its tributaries; this is called Hachab Gedareff. The second description of true Hachab gum comes from cultivated trees in the district on the left bank of the White Nile. Here the acacia is cultivated in a very sandy soil, somewhat red and ferruginous; this gum is called Hachab Kordofan. It is the gum that is collected from this district—namely, on the left bank of the White Nile—that is the best quality and realises the highest prices, and, moreover, this district produces more than any other. This is the gum which is commonly known as Kordofan, and is also sold under the denomination of Gum Acacia, or "Gum Arabic Sorts," without any further description.

CULTIVATION OF *Acacia Vereh* OR HACHAB.

In Kordofan, when the rainy season comes to an end towards the end of October (the tree being still green), the native goes into the acacia forest and removes strips of the bark from the trunk and the principal branches of each tree with a roughly made axe, a sketch of which we give. The length and width of the strips of bark cut away vary according to the importance of the tree. The work, as a matter of fact, is done very roughly without any method, but the native only cuts off the exterior bark of the tree, so as to leave the liber, or interior bark, to protect the sapwood. The tree is now left for twenty or thirty days, and at the end of that period the gum begins to exude and trickles down the incision or incisions made, and forms itself into globules at the bottom of the incision. The native visits each tree every four or five days and collects the globules of gum that have formed. This goes on right through the dry season, but as soon as the rain and the new vegetation of the tree (leaves and flowers) come, the exudation of the gum immediately stops. The cultivation and the collection of gum from the acacia-tree only starts after the tree is three years old, and when the tree is ten or thirteen years old (that is to say, has been tapped for seven to ten years) the exudation becomes less and less, the heart of the tree gets blacker each season, and then at the end of fifteen years the tree yield terminates. During the time that the exudation diminishes—from the tenth to the fifteenth year—the gum obtained is very dark. The ideal conditions for a good yield are (1) a very permeable ground; (2) the rainy season to be very rainy, and afterwards (from about the beginning of November) a very warm dry season, and during the time of the exudation, warm dry winds.

The forests of *Acacia Verek* are, of course, not forests in the ordinary sense of the word, but are large stretches of copse or undergrowth, with the Hachab trees planted thinly. This is done to allow the free circulation of air, and so that each tree gets its full share of the sun, as this greatly facilitates exudation. These Hachab trees, with their clear pale bark, would deceive one as being birch were it not for the bent and alternate long thorns which are peculiar to them. In damp places on the banks of rivers the trees keep their verdure during the dry season, and produce no gum at all. Gum collected at the beginning of the season—that is to say, about the middle of December—is always hard, translucent, and without friable pieces. Then, as the heat increases, the gum becomes friable and opaque. The natives profit by this change which takes place in the sun, as they expose their collections in the open air for two months or so, this bleaching the gum and making it very much more valuable. As the natives collect the gum from the trees they put the pieces into a small leather bag, such as is shown in the foreground of our second picture, afterwards carrying it to the zérîba of the nearest village to be sold. Illustrations Nos. 2, 3, 4, and 5 show the natives immediately after they have arrived in the centres where the buying takes place. Arrivals and sales take place in the centres every day except Friday (which is the Mussulman's Sunday). The most important centres in the White Nile district are Gedid, Kosti, Ed Dueim, Scherkeila,



HEAD OF THE CHOPPER USED TO MAKE NOTCHES IN THE ACACIA-TREES.

Um Dam, Bara, Taiara, Um Ruaba, Rahad, El Obeid, and El Nahoud. Buying and selling conditions are not identical, and, moreover, there is a great difference between buying at the zérîba of Gedareff and that of El Obeid. Then, again, the unit of measure, the kantar, has not the same value, but varies in different districts. The following table shows how these vary:

In El Obeid and Tayara it is worth 120 rotolis (1 = about a lb.).

In Scherkeila, Rahad, Bara, and El Dueim it is worth 140 rotolis.

In Khartoum, Omdurman, Gedareff, and Mafaza it is worth 110 rotolis.

In Sema, Wad Medang, and Sema it is worth 120 rotolis.

The cultivation and the collection of acacia in the districts of Gedareff, Mafaza, etc., is the same as we have given above for the Hachab Acacia in the White Nile and Kordofan districts. As the nature of the soil and the climatic conditions are slightly different in these districts from those of the Kordofan district, the gum also differs, not only in appearance but in value. The Hachab Gezireh gum exudes from the uncultivated *Acacia Verek* in the region of Sema, Obou Maham, and is worth anything from 5 to 7 piastres less per kantar than Kordofan gum.

GUM OBTAINED FROM *Acacia Seyal* OR TALKA.

This gum is called Talka, and is the exudation of the red or ferruginous *Acacia Seyal* of René Caillé, and of the white acacia or Soffar of Schweinfurth, and these two

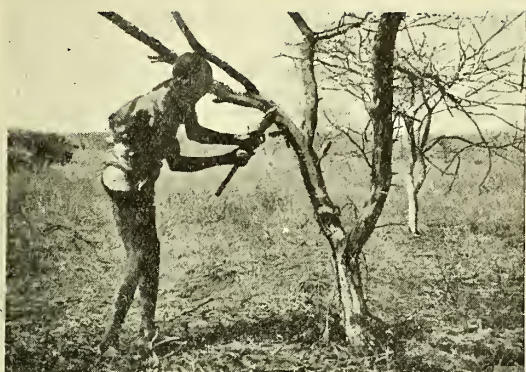
trees are to be found in large numbers in the Sudan. They are not cultivated, and the acacia obtained from them is very inferior to the other descriptions. The native, instead of making a selection and leaving the gum from these two species, collects it indiscriminately and mixes it with other kinds. Therefore it requires a very careful and expert buyer to make sure that when buying Hachab Kordofan gum there is no Talka mixed with it.

EXPORTS.

The export of acacia from the Anglo-Egyptian Sudan deserves careful attention because of its importance and ever-increasing growth. The quantities exported now are about ten times as large as twelve or thirteen years ago. This will be seen from the following figures: In 1899 the amount exported to various parts of the world was, roughly, 1,890 tons, whereas in 1912 the quantity was very close on 20,000 tons, and with the new railways which have been opened up and the very remunerative prices which are paid to the natives for collection (especially last year) the output must go on increasing. Nevertheless, for this year's campaign, it looks as though the crop will not prove to be nearly so large as that of 1912. This is due to the cold weather which has prevailed in the Kordofan district, and, as we have mentioned above, warm weather with warm dry winds is required to make the exudations from the trees satisfactory. Reports from some well-known sources state that even up to the present this year's crop is 25 per cent. smaller than last year's. Illustration No. 6 shows how the gum is bought in the centres of the various districts. It will be noticed in the foreground in one huge pile, and it requires a good deal of experience to be able to buy in bulk and be able to detect whether the gum is adulterated or not. The gum seen is the ordinary Kordofan sorts. A very economical way of buying Kordofan sorts in London is to buy the cleaned and sifted gum. The method of cleaning is rather interesting. Native girls sit round the heap (as shown in illustration No. 7) with sieves in their laps and small wicker baskets in front of them. They pick the bark out of the gum, and then sift it, thus freeing it from all loose sand. The cleaned gum is then tipped into the little baskets in front of them, and when these are full they are carried away by the natives and packed into the bales ready for export. This is shown in illustration No. 8. It will be noticed from the photograph that wherever the cleaning of gum is going on a white man is always on the spot, as the natives cannot be trusted. In most of the pictures Mr. Alland, who is considered to be most expert in gum acacia of all descriptions, is seen superintending the buying or packing for his own firm. It is rather interesting to note the way the natives carry the bales, four natives to every two bales, that is about 7 cwt. To complete all the information that is really necessary to get a true idea of the different trees from which commercial gum acacia comes, and the difficulties under which the gum is bought and sold, etc., is a very intricate matter, and it would be necessary to enumerate the many charges, taxes, royalties, etc., which have to be paid. I should be pleased to show any of your readers a piece of the Verek or Hachab Acacia from the Kordofan district with the gum adhering. This shows very clearly how the natives take off the outer bark and leave the inner bark, and also shows the thorns. On this tree the thorns are short and hooked, while those of the Seyal or Talka Acacia are very long and thin. Both of them, nevertheless, are very unpleasant to come in contact with for the unwary visitor.

[We are indebted to Messrs. Stanley F. Ward & Co., gum merchants, 9 Mincing Lane, London, E.C., for the loan of the photographs illustrating this article, the copyright of which is reserved.]

CHEMICALS VALUED AT 79,090% were imported into Hawaii from the United States during 1910-11, as compared with 87,040% in 1911-12. The territory of Hawaii is making rapid strides in commerce owing to the prosperity of the sugar industry. Kukui nuts is a production which is gradually coming to the front, and may be responsible for an important industry.



① Native making incision on the *Acacia Vereck* or *Rachab*



⑤ M. Alland inspecting gum prior to export



② Caravan arriving at the gum centres showing leather collecting bags



⑥ Buying gum from piles at El Obeid



③ Natives arriving in the gum centres



⑦ Native girls cleaning and sifting gum



④ Buying and packing of gum, showing native chiefs and M. Alland



⑧ M. Alland superintending packing of cleaned and sifted gum.

Illustrating the Sudan Acacia Gum Industry.

"C. & D. Diary" Competition.

Colonial and Foreign Vote.

In accordance with our usual practice in this our Colonial Issue, we now make the Awards in the *C. & D. Diary* competition. We have carefully gone through the answers set to our five questions, and find that the vote for the favourite business house advertising in the *Diary* has fallen upon Burroughs Wellcome & Co. (pp. 143-149), who are closely followed by Allen & Hanburys, Ltd. (pp. 161-170). Then follow Evans Sons Lescher & Webb, Ltd. (pp. 26, 27, 265, 283), May, Roberts & Co. (pp. 44, 45), and Burgoyne, Burbidges & Co. (p. 107). Others mentioned in the competition include the Alliance Drug and Chemical Co., The British Drug Houses, Ltd., W. J. Bush & Co., Ltd., Lennon, Ltd., Maw, Son & Sons, F. Newbery & Sons, Ltd., and Parke, Davis & Co. In answer to our second question, to name a favourite business house not advertising in the *Diary*, we find that the greatest number of votes has been accorded to the Vinolia Co., Ltd., whose announcements have been much missed. In a slightly less degree the same applies to F. Stearns & Co., of Detroit, and to May & Baker, Ltd. Others whose announcements were looked for in vain include Addis's Tooth-brushes, Auto-strop Safety-razor, the British Oxygen Co., Californian Fig Syrup, F. C. Calvert & Co., Colgate Soaps, Crown Perfumery Co., Dakin Bros., Ltd., Elliman, Sons & Co., Erasmic Co., Ltd., J. Gosnell & Co., Grimault & Co., J. G. Ingram & Son, W. Patterson & Sons, Seabury & Johnson, Titterton & Howard, and A. Wulff & Co. The most profitable advertisement (Question 3) has proved to be Allen & Hanburys' series of pages 161 to 170, in which they enumerate their specialities with chemist's own name. Burroughs Wellcome & Co.'s products on pages 143 to 149 are second in favour, and others in order of merit are Wright's Coal-tar Soap, Standard Tablet and Pill Co.'s products, and Eucryl, Ltd. Others voted for the following, which we place alphabetically: J. C. Eno, Ltd., Evans Sons Lescher & Webb, Ltd., Henry's Calcined Magnesias, Kent's Tooth-brushes, May, Roberts & Co., Ltd., F. Newbery & Sons, Ltd., Parke, Davis & Co., Robbins' Capsules and Perles, Scott's Emulsion, John Tye & Son's Capsules and Perles, Vibrona, Viscose, and G. H. Zeal's Clinicals. By far the bulk of our competitors regard Burroughs Wellcome & Co.'s pages as the most artistic in answer to Question 4, while Allen & Hanburys, Ltd., and Ford, Shapland & Co. tie for the second place. Others mentioned are Buisson Frères, Itrosyi, Newball & Mason, and Wright, Layman & Umney, Ltd. In answer to our last question (5), as to what speciality advertised in the *Diary* is most popular, the bulk plumped for Beecham's Pills, with Pears' Soap and Wright's Coal-tar Soap coming good seconds. Valda Pastilles, Hazeline Snow, Scott's Emulsion, Daisy, Eno, Thermogene, Wrigley's Spearmint Gum, Eversafe Pacifiers, and Zambuk occupy another class.

The Prizewinners.

Only one competitor succeeded in answering the five questions correctly. Another competitor succeeded in getting four answers right, and two competitors guessed three questions correctly. To

Mr. THOMAS RUSSELL, chemist, Upper Symonds Street, Auckland, New Zealand, who answered all the questions correctly, we award two guineas. To

Mr. JOHN H. NANKIVELL, 3440 West 23rd Avenue, Denver, Colorado, U.S.A., who answered four correctly, we give 5s. To

Mr. J. DUNCAN, Grosvenor Street, South Yarra, Victoria, Australia, and to

Mr. CECIL B. SECOMBE, Avonmore Avenue, North Norwood, South Australia, who both answered three questions right, we send a copy of our "Dictionary of Medical Terms."

It is interesting to compare the results of the answers with our Home Competition, and these we find to be:

Home.

1. Favourite business house, A. & H., pp. 161-170.
2. Favourite business house not advertising, Butler & Crispe.
3. Most profitable advt., A. & H., pp. 161-170.
4. Most artistic advt., B. W. & Co., pp. 143-149.
5. Most popular speciality, Beecham's Pills.

Colonial.

1. B. W. & Co., pp. 143-149.
2. Vinolia Co.
3. A. & H., pp. 161-170.
4. B. W. & Co., pp. 143-149.
5. Beecham's Pills.

Synthetic Sentences.

Coincd from words selected from the advertisements in the "C. & D. Diary, 1913," and sent in competition for six half-guineas.

You cannot plough with one horse. Physicians and chemists must therefore work together for public good.—*Walter E. Plant* (Doncaster).

Pure pharmaceutical preparations and prompt attention make many satisfied customers, with the National Health Insurance Act.—*G. J. Cumper* (Croydon).

To be successful in pharmacy, pharmacists must look upon customers as prescription(s), "with prompt, careful attention."—*J. Loughvan* (Brighton).

Inspection of *The Chemists' and Druggists' Diary* will give information which will bring its own reward.—*Arnold Waterhouse* (Manchester).

In all the branches of his varied trade, this *Diary* is the chemist's constant aid.—*Thos. McEver* (Kinsale, Ireland).

An "Insurance" prescription may be dispensed, but the new *C. & D. Diary* is indispensable.—*J. J. Witten* (Sunderland).

Attractive window-show, pleasant assistants, goods of best quality, suitable advertising, personal supervision—makes business a success.—*Wm. Dennis* (Saxilby, Lincs).

A chemist's success is largely due to the quality of drugs and attention paid to customers.—*C. H. Williams* (Carrick-on-Suir, Ireland).

"Tabloid" preparations have secured a prominent place in the pharmaceutical world because of their unsurpassed qualities.—*J. Sawman* (West Ham, E.).

To secure and maintain a reputation for quality should be the desire of every true pharmacist.—*Fred Hill* (Wolverhampton).

Qualified pharmacists are professional men in constant demand, indispensable to progressive medical doctors and pretty women.—*Robt. S. Chapman* (Donegal).

To prescribe, that is the doctors' business. Dispensing, that is our business. Bring your prescriptions here.—*John H. Nankivell* (Denver, Colo., U.S.A.).

The perfect chemist and druggist is the ideal that we should all concentrate upon in 1913.—*F. Archer* (Askern Spa, near Doncaster).

The one essential in pharmacy, like other retail business, is not to be out of stock.—*J. G. Wallbridge* (Liverpool).

Every packet, box, or bottle, however little, should be properly labelled before leaving the chemist's counter.—*A. L. Blair* (Woodstock, Cape of Good Hope).

Pleasure and profit come to the pharmacist who will carefully study *The Chemists' and Druggists' Diary*.—*Thos. Russell* (Auckland, N.Z.).

It may not be professional, but a window-display of a popular advertised "protected article" pays.—*W. E. Gaze* (Highams Park).

Pharmacy without your journal is like a nut without a kernel.—*Miss G. Cowley* (Nottingham).

A FORGOTTEN INCIDENT.—On September 16, 1796, there was a disastrous fire in a warehouse in Cheapside, Liverpool, which extended to the wheat warehouse of Messrs. Corrie, Gladstone & Co., the front part of which collapsed and many persons were injured. A contemporary account ("Pocket Magazine," September 1796) proceeds to say: "Two of the Tay fencibles, who were miserably wounded by the above accident, being carried to the house of an apothecary in the neighbourhood, who refused them admittance because they were soldiers, the surrounding populace, irritated at his conduct, broke into his shop, and immediately discharged the whole contents of it, drugs, gallipots, and phials, into the street."

THE ROYAL COLONIAL INSTITUTE.

An Imperial Organisation in London contemporaneous with the Pharmacy Act, 1868, which has done much to foster the growth of Empire Spirit in all parts of the British Dominions.



NE of the most practical links of Empire which have ever been forged was the foundation in 1868 of the Royal Colonial Institute. To appreciate fully the significance of the step taken, it is necessary to consider that at that time there was a feeling of pessimism regarding the Colonies which can hardly be realised at the present day. One has only to turn to works of reference published in the early 'sixties to note that the opinion was freely expressed that colonies were an encumbrance rather than of assistance to the Mother Country.

Canada was perhaps the main cause of the atmosphere created at that time, and it is curious to read: "There are not perhaps a dozen men of sense in the Empire who are not ready to admit that in some ten or twenty years Canada will be independent or be incorporated with the United States." The happy results which have followed the grant of the largest measure of self-government to any dependency up to that time render it unnecessary to labour the point further.

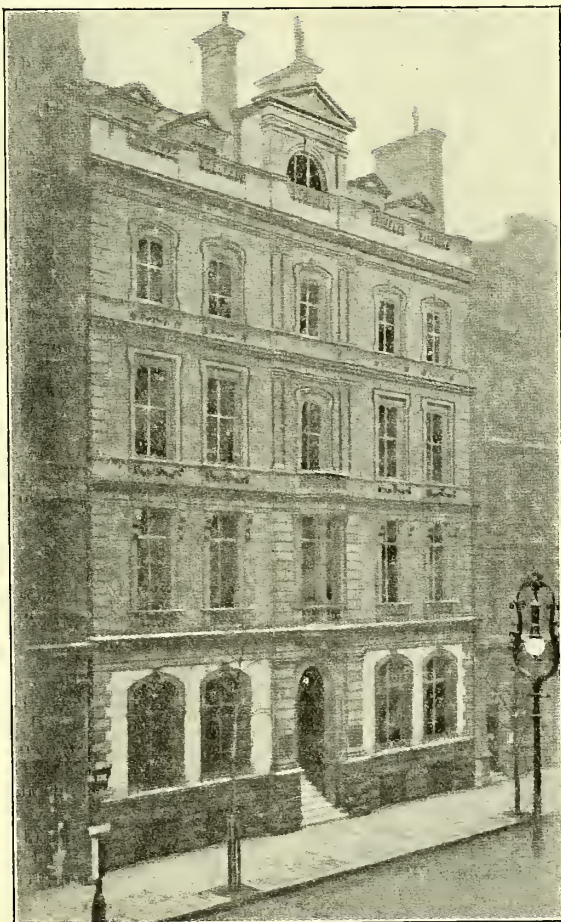
The existence of the Royal Colonial Institute dates from June 26, 1868, when a little band of enthusiasts met at Willis's Rooms, London, under the chairmanship of Viscount Bury, to promote the formation of a non-political organisation which should spread a knowledge of this country's dependencies and so dissipate the spirit of suspicion. This germ has since expanded in numerous directions, some of which we endeavour to show in the course of this article. At the meeting referred to above, a provisional committee was appointed, which drew up rules and reported to a meeting held a fortnight later, when the Colonial Society was formally constituted. The Colonial Office as we know it now had some ten years previously been reconstituted and had emerged successfully from the stage when it was a mere appendage of the Privy Council and concerned itself with the "plantation" type of colony. The newly constituted Colonial Society at once took steps to obtain official recognition from both the Colonial Office and the India Office. This was readily accorded, and a spirit of co-operation estab-

lished, which has ever since been of the most cordial character. An inaugural dinner was held in 1869, at which the Prime Minister (Mr. Gladstone) and the Colonial Secretary (Earl Granville) were present, the former giving some interesting reminiscences of the time when, thirty-four years previously, he had served in the "Colonial Department." By permission of Queen Victoria, the prefix "Royal" was employed in the title, and in 1870 the title was changed to the Royal Colonial Institute, the reason being the inconvenience arising from the similarity of the initial letters to those of the Royal College of Surgeons. There has recently been a suggestion that the title is somewhat inappropriate now that the term "Colonial" has been narrowed, but the difficulty of discovering an appropriate designation which shall at the same time be as concise as the present title is considerable. Suffice it to say that the objects of the

Institute embrace not only the Colonies, but India, the Dominions, and the Australian Commonwealth, as well as those countries over which this country exercises a suzerainty. The Prince of Wales became President of the Institute in 1878, and on his accession as Edward VII. Patron, being succeeded by his present Majesty. The Institute was granted a Royal Charter in 1882, in recognition of the fact that since its establishment it had "sedulously pursued the objects for which it was founded" and with a desire of "encouraging a design so laudable and salutary."

THE ORIGINAL IDEA that the Institute should be a store-house of knowledge regarding the Colonies and Dependencies has been kept in view since its foundation, and has resulted in the establishment of the finest library in the world on this special subject, and the provision of a newspaper-room quite unapproached in completeness by any other institution in this country. There are other problems, however, with which the Institute has grappled in an original manner. Recognising that the British trade within the Empire does not grow in the proportion which is its due, the Royal Colonial Institute set up on a per-

manent basis an Empire Trade and Industry Committee. The objects are to encourage such trade and industry by arranging for the delivery of addresses on financial, industrial, and trade subjects by experts, before the Institute and before Chambers of Commerce and similar trade institutions. There is the further object of facilitating, encouraging, and arranging industrial conferences or meetings for



FACADE OF INSTITUTE BUILDINGS,
Northumberland Avenue, London, S.W.

the purpose of discussing questions of common interest, with a view to regulating and co-ordinating the conditions of Empire trade and industry. As an instance of the work which this committee undertakes may be mentioned some of the matters dealt with in 1912. Steps were taken towards the establishment of a Chair of Empire Trade at the London School of Economics, and a substantial sum has been promised towards the maintenance of the Chair. Interest has been revived in the question of a State-owned Atlantic cable, and cordial support has been granted by the Commonwealth and New Zealand Governments, and the Canadian Government has also expressed itself as favourably disposed towards the proposal. The committee aims at bringing about the formation of a subsidiary Imperial Conference to deal with the subject. The necessity of a central organisation to promote and arrange business details of Imperial trade was brought to the notice of the Dominions Royal Commission at its first sitting. The efforts towards the improvement of the British Consular Service in the direction of making it available to the Overseas Dominions equally with the United Kingdom have met with some success. The people of Canada and Australia can now make use of the British Consular Service almost equally with the people of this country, and it is hoped to obtain similar advantages for the people of the other Dominions. At the request of the Dean of the Faculty of Engineering at the University of Hong-Kong, the committee has co-operated in procuring from British firms and others interested in Imperial education in the Far East equipment of machinery and instruments for the engineering laboratories. Among other subjects which have been considered in past years by the committee are the following:

1. Uniformity of company law within the Empire.
2. The work of the British Consular Service in regard to Empire trade.
3. The establishment of through bookings of goods by sea and land from one part of the Empire to another.
4. The issue of popular handbooks setting forth the resources and trade conditions of the Crown Colonies and Dependencies.
5. The necessity of taking some definite action to develop the resources of and British trade with India and the Crown Colonies and Dependencies by the appointment of Trade Commissioners, as has recently been done in the case of the self-governing Dominions.

MIGRATION WITHIN THE EMPIRE.

Another development of the Royal Colonial Institute has been the establishment of a Standing Committee on Emigration, representing its own members and also the leading emigration societies, and dealing mainly with the question of promoting migration within the Empire. The functions of this committee are to

- (a) Advise on all general questions of policy affecting emigration.
- (b) Co-ordinate the emigration societies of the United Kingdom.
- (c) Take over the functions of the Emigrants' Information Office.
- (d) Deal with Labour Exchanges, Boards of Guardians, etc., on all matters connected with emigration.
- (e) Deal with the High Commissioners, etc., in regard to questions of emigration.

Prior to the meeting of the Imperial Conference in 1911, the Council addressed the Prime Minister on this subject, and forwarded the reports of three expert sub-committees on the subject of emigration of married men and families, single men, and of children, with a request that an opportunity might be afforded of amplifying the views expressed in them to a subsidiary conference appointed to consider the problem of emigration. Special attention is now being devoted to the difficulties which confront Boards of Guardians in emigrating orphan, deserted, and adopted State children who are under their care and control. The views of the committee have been laid before a Special Committee of the Local Government Board, to which have been presented the arguments for (1) co-operation between the Home and Dominion Governments with a view to formulating a scheme for assuring the future of such children; (2) the appointment of a Government Department for dealing with emigration

generally, and for controlling all emigration agencies; (3) the enlargement of the power of Guardians, and the removal of existing difficulties with a view to benefiting the children under their control, the ratepayer, and the Empire at large.

LECTURE ARRANGEMENTS.

Two years ago an Empire Lectures Committee was formed for the purpose of bringing to the notice of the people of the Mother Country the importance of the various Overseas Dominions, Colonies, and India by means of illustrated lectures. An official Lecturer of the Institute delivers addresses illustrated by lantern-slides before audiences in various parts of the United Kingdom, and in this work he is assisted by several Fellows of the Institute, while the various Governments have contributed lantern-slides illustrating the scenery, resources, and public buildings in various parts of the Empire.

It should not be forgotten that these are in addition to the papers which are read and discussed by the Fellows at the monthly meetings, which cover a variety of subjects. One of the recent lectures was by Sir Ronald Ross, on "Medical Science and the Tropics," a subject of much importance to the Fellows of the Institute. A special donation has been made to Mr. Austen Chamberlain's fund for promoting the study of tropical medicine, and a subscription-list has been opened in connection with the appeal made by Sir Ronald Ross.

PRIZE ESSAYS.

One of the most recent developments of the Royal Colonial Institute has been the promotion of a scheme of prizes for essays on subjects of Imperial concern. It is felt that the preparation of such essays would tend to stimulate interest in the history, institutions, and resources of the various countries which constitute the Empire. The subject selected for the present year's competition is "The Meaning of British Imperialism." The prizes are two of 20*l.* and one of 10*l.*, one of the 20*l.* prizes being open to University undergraduates, the other 20*l.* prize and one of 10*l.* being open to pupils of any school in the United Kingdom whose age does not exceed nineteen at the time of sending in the essays, which this year is September 20.

There is also a larger scheme of a gold medal for scientific inquiry. A gold medal is offered annually for the best research monograph on some subject bearing directly upon the practical problem of the closer and permanent union of the Empire. The theme for the current year has been selected with reference to the immediate phase of the Imperial movement, and is stated as follows:

"The interaction, if any, between the economic interests of a State and its foreign relations, with special reference to the question whether, or how far, the self-governing States of the British Empire (with or without a more centralised system of government than it now has) could co-operate permanently for the purpose of defence without co-operating for the purpose also of trade."

Pecuniary acknowledgment may also be given for monographs of special merit, and the successful competitor will be made an honorary Fellow for life. The conditions upon which the medals are awarded give an elaboration of the theme stated above.

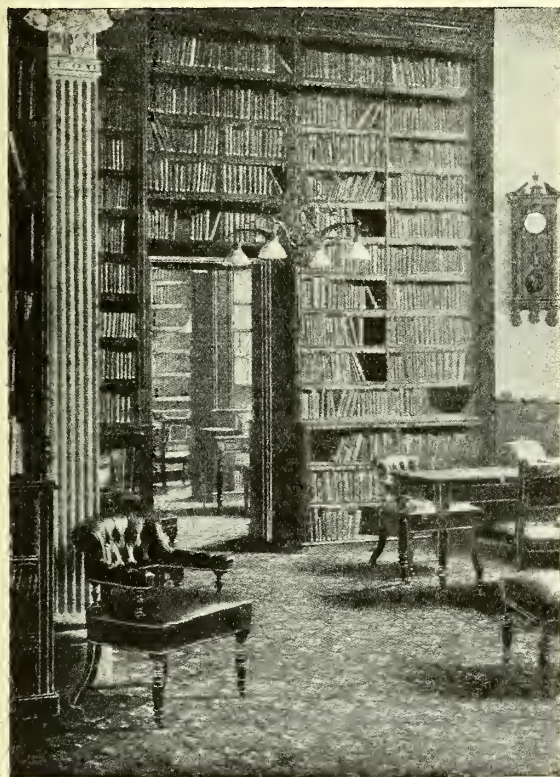
The Royal Colonial Institute also publishes a monthly journal, "United Empire," and a Year Book, which are supplied to every Fellow and Associate, and reflect the wide views which the Council of the Institute hold on Empire questions and supply interesting and accurate information regarding Imperial activities.

The constitution of the Institute allows of the establishment of branches, and the Council have had recently an offer of valuable freehold land at Bristol for the purpose of erecting a building for a local branch. The conditions attached to the offer, which is made by the Sheriff of Bristol, are not of an onerous character—the main requirement being a minimum of 500 members.

SOME STATISTICS.

The reference to membership reminds us that in no way can the growth of the Institute be shown in a more remarkable manner than by the annual statistics of the

number of Fellows. The first year of the existence of the Institute there were 174 adherents; in ten years this had increased to nearly a thousand; since then the growth has been steady and continuous, until at the end of 1911 there were 5,608 adherents. Since then a miraculous increase has taken place, so that at the end of 1912 there



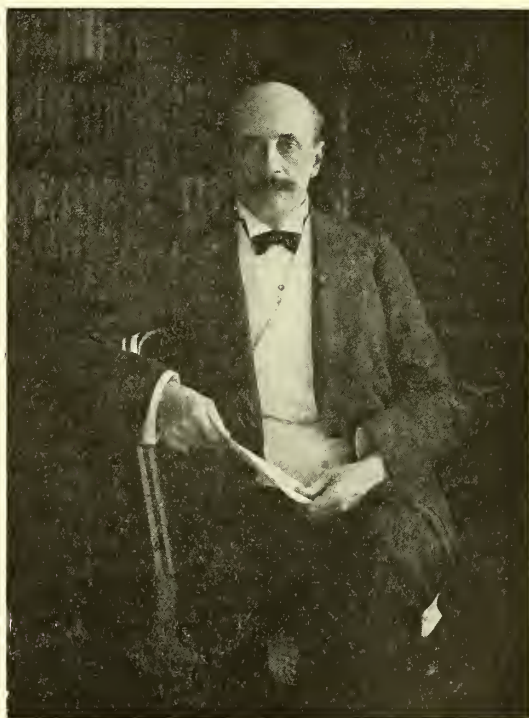
THE LIBRARY.

were 7,177 Fellows and Associates. This augmentation is due in a great measure to a visit which the Secretary has made to Canada, where the aims and objects of the Institute have been made known and enthusiastically appreciated. There is also an addition of 207 Associates under a new scheme of interesting in the work of the Royal Colonial Institute persons resident in the United Kingdom who do not desire the full membership. There are fifteen life honorary Fellows, and the Rhodes Scholars are made honorary Fellows during their residence at Oxford. It may be added that two-thirds of the Fellows are non-resident—i.e., reside in India and the Colonies—which shows that the Institute is fulfilling its purpose in linking together the interests of the Mother and Daughter Countries. Efforts are, however, being made to equalise the two classes of Fellows. The receipts for 1912 amounted to nearly 12,000*l.*, and the net ordinary expenditure about 11,000*l.*

THE HEADQUARTERS.

So far nothing has been said regarding the headquarters of the Royal Colonial Institute. At the time of the foundation rooms were occupied at the Westminster Palace Hotel, and subsequently at 15 Strand. In 1883 it was decided to acquire a permanent home for the Institute, as the premises had become quite inadequate for the purpose. The lease of a site in Northumberland Avenue was secured, and, after an expenditure of 50,000*l.*, part of the present handsome building was occupied in 1885. The freehold of the building has since been acquired, and a few years ago the premises were almost entirely re-built to provide more suitable accommodation for the work of the Institute. The premises now form one of the best clubs in London for Colonials visiting this country, and

those interested in our Overseas possessions: Under the guidance of Mr. James R. Boosé, the Secretary, the present writer explored the Institute's premises. There are five floors. On the ground floor is the entrance-hall, with lift to the upper floors. There is here a brass memorial-tablet to the Fellows of the Institute who fell in the South African War. On the right is a reception-room, in which ladies as well as Fellows can obtain tea and coffee and meet their friends. The general room, on the left, is a spacious apartment where the daily papers, directories, railway guides, and writing materials are available. On this floor are also the general office and the hall-porter's lodge, where Fellows can obtain their correspondence—the Institute is much used as an address by Colonials visiting this country. On the mezzanine floor is the Secretary's room, the outer office being the receiving-room for the numberless newspapers received by post from abroad. The general library occupies the whole of the first floor, and is a lofty apartment, the walls being covered with books from floor to ceiling. It contains over 90,000 volumes and pamphlets relating to the British Dominions, the Colonies and India, and increases at the rate of about 4,000 a year. The collection is unique, and of great value to students and all who seek information with regard to the administration, resources, trade, history, law, ethnology, and general conditions of the British Empire. The classification adopted is especially useful for the purpose, the library being divided into as many sections as there are separate administrative units within the Empire. These sections are further subdivided according to subjects, so that all the books on a given topic are found together on the shelves. Next to the general library is situated the law library and map-room. Here are to be found almost complete sets of the statutes of the Dominions, Colonies, and India, as well as the various law reports and law journals and special treatises on Colonial law. The maps and charts number several thousands, and have been presented mainly by the Admiralty, War Office, and the Overseas Governments. Beside the general



[Photo E. H. Mills.

RT. HON. EARL GREY, P.C., G.C.B., G.C.M.G., G.C.V.O.,
President of the Royal Colonial Institute.

and law libraries there is, in the basement, what is known as the parliamentary library, which contains the Blue-

books, parliamentary reports, debates, sessional papers, and other official literature issued by the Overseas Governments. It is a mine of information for the serious worker, and is constantly being added to. The library is catalogued in a printed work last issued in 1901, but of recent years a card-index system has been introduced and applied to all the additions. It will be extended in time to include the whole of the publications. There are in the library many books of great value and rarity, and we noted a special section containing the prose and poetic writings of Colonial authors. The botanical section appeals specially to our readers.

The second floor is occupied entirely by the newspaper-room, in which the newspapers, gazettes, and principal trade-papers from all parts of the Empire are regularly filed. The newspapers and magazines received at the library number over 700, and are arranged on reading-stands, in a definite order, so that they can be referred to with ease. It is interesting to note that when the year's files are complete they are handed over to the British Museum, where they are bound and kept for permanent reference.

The Council-room is on the third floor; it is chiefly interesting to the visitor by reason of the collection of portrait on the walls. These include the councillors and officials of the Institute from the commencement. On this floor is situated the smoking-room, and on the next floor are the editorial rooms and various smaller rooms used for conference purposes.

The Duke of Connaught was succeeded last week as President by Earl Grey, who was Governor-General and Commander-in-Chief of Canada from 1904 to 1911, and had previously occupied the position of Administrator of Rhodesia. The Chairman of the Council is Lieutenant-General Sir J. Bevan Edwards, K.C.B., K.C.M.G., who served in the Crimean War, the Indian Mutiny, China, and in the Suakim Expedition. The Treasurer is Mr. Robert Littlejohn, who succeeded Sir Montagu F. Ommanney. Mr. James R. Boosé, the Secretary, to whom the writer is indebted for much of the information here given, has been connected with the Institute for over forty years. He was formerly librarian, and to him is due the splendid system of book classification which is carried out. He is the leading authority on Colonial libraries, on various aspects of which subject he has published many monographs. His recent mission to Canada has been of such a satisfactory character that other parts of the Empire will probably be visited in like manner. When Mr. Boosé was visiting Nova Scotia during his recent tour, he was present at the dedication of the Halifax Memorial Tower, which faces the harbour. He undertook, on behalf of the Institute, to raise funds for the purpose of adding to the base of the tower a pair of bronze lions. The money has been obtained. The lions, which are now being cast, will reach Halifax in June, to be unveiled in the presence of many of the Fellows of the Institute resident in Canada.

Contracts Settled.

Banff District Asylum.—Mr. William Alexander, chemist and druggist, Banff, for the year's drug supply.

Barnsley Guardians.—Mr. W. Rigby, pharmacist, Barnsley, appointed chemist for a year.

Cardiff City Council.—C. J. Hewlett & Son, Ltd., for the annual supply of drugs to the hospitals, at 33½ per cent. discount off price list; Ferris & Co., Ltd., for druggists' sundries, at 15 per cent. off price list.

East and West Ardley Urban Council.—Newton, Chambers & Co., Ltd., for disinfectants.

East Dereham Urban Council.—Mr. W. S. Dent appointed chemist for six months.

Faversham Town Council.—Mr. T. J. Thomas, chemist and druggist, of Faversham, for disinfectants at 37l. 2s. 8d.

Fulham Borough Council.—Sanitas Co., Ltd., for an annual supply of carbolic-acid powder at 6s. per cwt.

Government Contracts.—*Admiralty*: F. Darton & Co., Johnson & Sons, Ltd., and Liverpool Lint Co., Liverpool, for miscellaneous articles; J. M. Hamilton & Co., Ltd., Hull, J. Hare & Co., Bristol, Smith Bros. & Co., Stratford, Younghusband, Barnes & Co., for linseed oils; Price's Co., Ltd., for rapeseed oil and for sperm oil; Campbell,

Adnach & Co., Glasgow, P. B. Cow & Co., J. G. Ingram & Son, C. Macintosh & Co., Ltd., D. Moseley & Sons, Ltd., North British Rubber Co., Ltd., for air and water beds. *India Office*: Spencer, Chapman & Messel, Ltd., for copper sulphate; Price's Co., Ltd., for glycerin and for oil; T. Morson & Son, for potassium iodide; Arnold & Sons, for sterilisers. *War Office*: Mitchells, Ashworth, Stansfield & Co., Ltd., for water-bottle covers; Jeyes' Sanitary Compounds Co., Ltd., for liquor cresol sapon.; Edward Cook & Co., Ltd., and J. Knight, Ltd., for soap. *Post Office*: Messrs. Kingfisher, Leeds, for petroleum jelly.

Grantham Guardians.—B. & J. Fillingham, chemists, Grantham, for chemists' goods.

Guildford Town Council.—Adcocks, Ltd., for carbolic-acid powder, etc.

Holborn Borough Council.—Adcocks, Ltd., and the Sonax Disinfectant Co., for annual supplies of disinfectants.

Holywell Guardians.—Mr. David Hughes, chemist, Holywell, for carbolic acid at 2s. 3d. per gal. and charcoal at 10s. 9d. per cwt.

Ilford Urban District Council.—Mr. T. A. Harrison, Ph.C., Ilford, for one year's supply of disinfectants.

Islington Guardians.—Corbyn, Stacey & Co., Ltd., for drugs; Burgoyne, Burbidges & Co., for druggists' sundries.

Kettering Guardians.—A. Browne, Ltd., Leicester, for surgical dressings.

Littleborough, Milnrow, and Wardle Hospital Committee.—Mr. W. Nall, Ph.C., Milnrow, for drugs and medicines.

Liverpool City Hospital.—Ayrton, Saunders & Co., Ltd., for the supply of drugs.

London County Council.—The Gas Light and Coke Co., for the supply of protosulphate of iron to the Barking Outfall Works till June 30. The estimated quantity required is 550 tons.

Macclesfield Corporation Hospital.—Mr. E. Brian, chemist, Macclesfield, for druggists' sundries.

Manchester Corporation.—The Parks: Camwal, Ltd., Jewsbury & Brown, and Westmacott & Son, for mineral waters and tonics. Hospitals: Jas. Woolley, Sons & Co., Ltd., the Surgical Manufacturing Co., and W. H. Hill & Son, for drugs and druggists' sundries. Tramways: Jas. Woolley, Sons & Co., Ltd., ambulance accessories; Newton, Chambers & Co., Ltd., for disinfecting fluid and powder.

Metropolitan Asylums Board.—Price, Powell & Co., for a supply of hot-water bottles; Gallenkamp & Co., Ltd., for annual supply of laboratory appliances to the hospitals and bacteriological laboratories of the Board. The value of each contract is under 100l.

Metropolitan Water Board.—Baird & Tatlock (London), Ltd., for an annual supply of laboratory apparatus, test-tubes, etc.; Burgoyne, Burbidges & Co., for chemicals.

Nantwich Guardians.—Russell & Andress, chemists, Crewe, for drugs at 32l. 9s. 4d.

Ogmore and Garw Urban District Council.—Sanitas Co., Ltd., for the year's supply of disinfectants.

Oldbury Urban Council.—Cuxson, Gerrard & Co., for disinfectants.

Rishton Council.—Sanitas Co., Ltd., for disinfecting fluid; the Sanitary Dry Lime Co., for disinfectant powder.

Romford Urban Council.—Mr. W. S. Steeples, chemist, Romford, for disinfectants.

Royston (Herts) Guardians.—Mr. J. T. Webb, pharmacist, Royston, for chemists' sundries.

Swansea Town Council.—Welsh Rubber Co., for india-rubber goods; United Alkali Co., Ltd., for chloros and chloride of lime; Jeyes' Sanitary Compounds Co., Ltd., for disinfectant soap; Killgerm Co., Jeyes' Sanitary Compounds Co., Ltd., McDougall Bros., for disinfectant fluids; Killgerm Co., for sulphur candles; the Sanitas Co., Ltd., for fumigators.

Swindon and Highworth Guardians.—Green & Co., Swindon, for chemists' goods.

Tonbridge Urban Hospital.—Mr. S. Smith, chemist and druggist, 132 High Street, Tonbridge, for chemicals, etc.; Sanitas Co., Ltd., for disinfectants.

Twickenham Urban Hospital.—Mr. D. F. Fife, chemist, East Twickenham, for drugs.

Wakefield Board of Guardians.—Mr. W. Pollard, chemist and druggist, Wakefield, for drugs, oils, and surgical appliances.

Walsall Town Council.—Lakin & Co., for an annual supply of carbolic powder.

Waterloo-with-Seaforth Urban Council.—Pearson's Antiseptic Co., Ltd., for liquid disinfectants at 1s. 11d. gal.; Taylor's Automatic Disinfectant, Ltd., for carbolic powder at 3s. 7½d. cwt.; Killgerm Co., Ltd., Cleckheaton, for carbolic acid (97 per cent.) at 1s. 4d. gal.

Whitby Urban Council.—Messrs. J. Brooks and Ward & Puckrin appointed chemists for a year.

Wigton Guardians.—Mr. W. H. Younghusband, pharmacist, Wigton, appointed chemist.

The Micro-action of Melted Morphine.

By James Scott.

MUCH may be learnt by examining various substances under the microscope while they are in a state of active modification. As an instance I may mention morphine, with which I experimented for some time. While it is being converted, by heat, into the brown or reddish resinous condition, and also during its cooling state, it acts in a very noteworthy manner. It is necessary to adopt a few precautions before undertaking the task. I suitably muffle my mouth and nose before commencing the heating. Then care must be taken to guard against breakage of glass slides. To suddenly lay an exceptionally hot glass slip on the cold or cool stage of the microscope encourages the occurrence of a number of fractures, with resultant inconvenience and imperfection of observations. I either stand the instrument on a hanger in front of the grate fire, within reach at the moment I need it on the table, or else I lay a very hot plate of metal on the stage to be removed immediately before the slide is ready.

For the experiment itself a mere scrap of morphine is required, say on the end of a penknife blade. This is laid towards the end of an ordinary microscopical glass slide, and the latter is held in a pair of pincers over the

ridges and depressions so quickly that the additions of the fresh outer rows, bobbing up one after another, and spreading fanwise, gave the impression of onward movement, whereas there was no progression whatever.

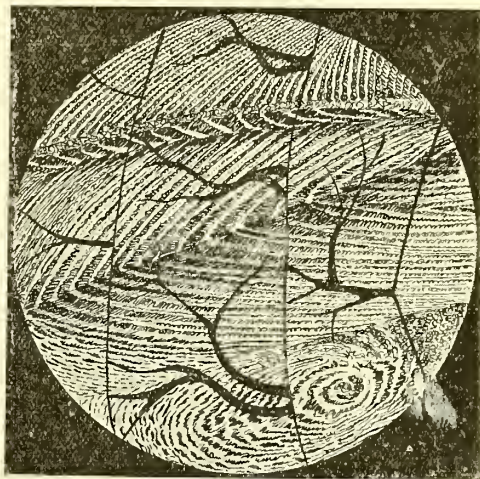


FIG. 2.—Melted morphine; a magnified view after first cooling, and the particles of the substance are stationary.

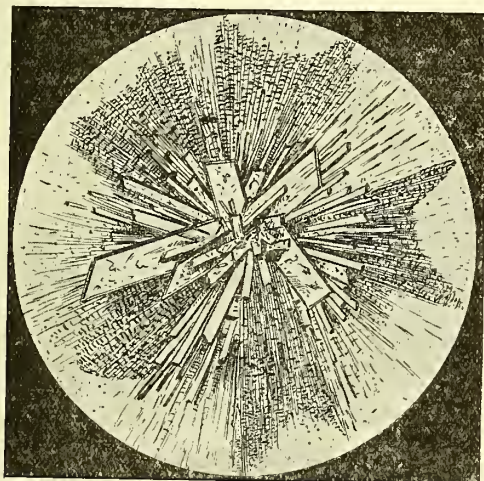


FIG. 1.—Melted morphine, a magnified view. Prismatic crystals suddenly appear, and change into travelling rays that nearly fill the field of view.

top of the chimney of a lighted lamp until the whiteness of the substance has been changed to brown. The various effects depicted were obtained without inflaming the substance, the copious fumes being allowed to escape. As soon as the morphine is melted the slide is transferred to the stage of the microscope, when, looking down the tube, one sees that a kind of syrup has taken the place of the semi-opaque white crystals. Before a second or two has passed there suddenly springs into view a nucleus of transparent, oblique-ended, prismatic crystals, generally larger than the normal ones. These rapidly "grow" longitudinally and lose their clear-cut and definite form, splitting up instead into a series of reticulated rays which run across the field of view towards the circumference of the patch of burnt morphine, and then remain still. Cracks afterwards occur in the film thus formed. Fig. 1 depicts this commencement.

While it is possible to see this result without much trouble, it is imperative to be very quick in looking down the tube when the hot slide is placed upon the stage; otherwise the movements may be missed. Although the term "glowing" describes the apparent movements of these features, the spectacle is undoubtedly produced by a kind of "rippling" of the substance. It is as though the cooling had brought into existence a succession of tiny

It is noticeable that, scattered about the area, are some opaque, nearly black, dabs, encircled by symmetrically placed "teeth," or long spines. These are really corrugations or folds in the more syrupy portions of the substance. The film, however, often wrinkles up in the most fantastic manner. Sometimes this phase will resemble a number of feathers, when long patches of hardened syrup occur instead of disc-like ones. In such cases the folds issue with peculiar regularity from the sides of the ridge, and give decidedly pretty results. An idea of these effects can be got from fig. 2. The "graining" effect is produced by the edges of the "rushing" rays meeting and coalescing, the consequence being that a surplus of particles is piled up at the junctions of the lines, and spreads with fair regularity to form the "nozzles" and the "bird's eyes" of the figuring.

Another style of action is shown in fig. 3. After the

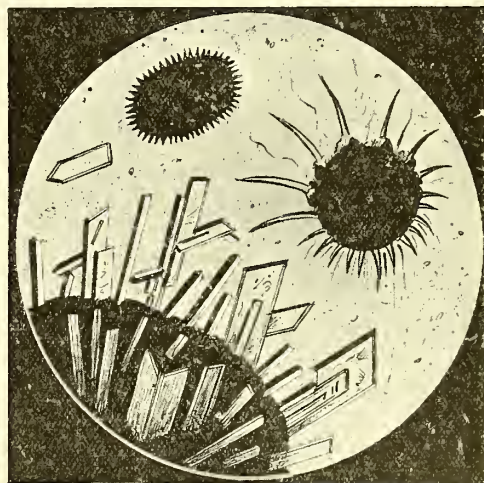


FIG. 3.—A magnified view of morphine fused to blackness. Numerous transparent crystals are found therein, as well as many toothed objects, due to wrinkling of the substance.

morphine has been heated to brownness, examination will disclose a fixed array of brilliant, transparent, highly refractive crystals projecting all round the semi-charred mass. By modifying the illumination it becomes plain

that similar objects project from the body of the substance. They are not the original crystals, being much larger than those and beautifully clear. It seems to me that when such crystals, the outcome of excessive heat, are lying in the fluid or syrup which accompanies the change, they are resolved into the reticulated condition shown in figs. 1 and 2; but if they are engendered far enough above the surface of the glass so that there is no direct contact with the syrup, they retain their form better, though they ultimately char with the remainder of the chemical when further heat is applied.

Much of the result in regard to visual effect depends upon whether the scrap of morphine is spread evenly over the glass or piled into a mound. Fig. 2 shows one of the effects obtained by a few moments' heating and cooling. I was struck with the graining of the particles, which collectively mimicked a beautiful piece of wood. Sometimes, if the heating has gone too far before examination is made, the altered morphine simply crystallises so densely that it resembles a confused mess of irregular, broken, and intermingled bars. It is not difficult, however, to determine on the right time to magnify it, which is as soon as it assumes the liquid state after the white original crystals constituting the powder have been fused.

The thicker branching lines in fig. 2, and the finer few ones which connect them, indicate a number of cracks in what appears to be a varnish-like layer that overspreads the reticulated portion. It is not easy to determine, however, whether the reticulations are separate therefrom, or are only tinier undercracks in the same film. Continued heating, either with or without a break for enlarged observation, so densely blackens the substance, and renders it so persistently homogeneous, that nothing further worthy of notice appears to happen unless reagents are brought into contact with it. After dealing in various microscopical ways with a large number of substances with which the pharmacist is familiar, I conclude that they might almost be classified by their respective conducts when submitted to heat, extreme cold, and other influences.

MEDICAL GLEANINGS.

Cough-snuffs.

In the treatment of vomiting due to coughing which takes place after meals, frequently met with in tuberculous patients, Garin and Rochais ("Le Progrès Médical") employ the following snuffs with a view to inducing sneezing:

1. Fol. lavandulæ,
Fol. melissæ,
Fol. menthæ piperitæ ... aa. 5j.
Glusidi,
β-naphthol ... aa. gr. viij.
Misce. Fiat sternutatorium.
2. Pulv. pyrethri,
Pulv. sem. staphisagriæ,
Pulv. zingiberis ... aa. 5j.
Misce. Fiat sternutatorium.
3. Pulv. fol. convallariæ ... 5j.
Pulv. cubebæ ... 5ij.
Pulv. anisi ... 5j.
Misce. Fiat sternutatorium.

The patient takes a pinch of one of these snuffs whenever he feels that his cough is about to make him vomit.

Ringworm.

DR. W. W. NOCK, of Penkridge, writing to the "British Medical Journal" recently stated that the following method of treating ringworm with sodium carbonate was shown him by a conscientious but rather ignorant woman in charge of a home for waifs and strays, who said she had never known more than two applications necessary. Take a piece of sodium carbonate (washing soda) about the size of a walnut, and hold it against red-hot iron (a heated poker will do); then rub the melted end of the piece of soda freely into the ringworm, particularly thoroughly if it is in the scalp. Any hair round about

is previously cut short. One application is sufficient on the body, but on the scalp it may be necessary to repeat it six or seven days later. Usually no dressing is necessary, though if sore boric-acid ointment may be used. This apparently heroic treatment is practically painless, leaves no permanent mark, and, the doctor says, so far has not failed him.

The Administration of Salvarsan.

At a recent meeting of the Western Pharmacists' Association Mr. W. H. Gordon, pharmacist at the French Hospital, referred to the method in use at the hospital. This was devised by Mr. Dudley Kennard, F.R.C.S. Edin., and Mr. Gordon, and described in "The Lancet" last year. The intravenous method is that more often employed. The salvarsan solution must be prepared immediately before use and kept at a temperature approximating blood-heat during administration. The solution is prepared as follows:

Into a narrow-necked graduated glass cylinder of a capacity of 250 c.c., containing about forty sterile glass beads, 40 c.c. of distilled water at a temperature of 104° F. is measured. The salvarsan, 0.6 gram, is then gradually added, the tube being vigorously shaken to aid solution. The solution must not show (even when examined by transmitted light) any drop-like or gelatinous particles. To this is added 20 drops of a 15 per cent. caustic-soda solution. A precipitate forms which redissolves on the addition of a few more drops of caustic-soda solution. The clear yellow liquid is then filled up to 240 c.c. with a 0.5 per cent. saline solution prepared from sterile freshly distilled water. Each 40 c.c. of the solution now contains 0.1 gram of salvarsan, 200 c.c. contains 0.5 gram, so the dose required may be accurately ascertained.

A Trinidad Pharmacy.



The illustration is of a typical store such as is to be found in the tropical parts of the British Empire. It is the Scottish Pharmacy established by the late Mr. A. C. Laing, and now carried on by Mr. Leonard E. Murray at 41 and 43 High Street, San Fernando, Trinidad, British West Indies. The front of the pharmacy is characterised by the fine wide doorway and two good show-windows, which are well sheltered by the veranda of the first floor. The left-hand window is chiefly devoted to the display of apparatus, and the right-hand to a well-arranged display of specialties. "We specialise in Prescription-work" is one of the wall signs on the shop-front, the others being "Druggists' Sundries, Surgical Appliances, Trusses, Sponges, etc., always in stock," "Rubber Goods and Toilet Requisites a Speciality," and "Try us for Genuine Patent Medicines."

NOTES ON NOVELTIES

AND OTHER MATTERS OF TRADE INTEREST

"ELSO" SPECIALITIES.

The Wholesale Chemical Works, 114-116 Copenhagen Street, King's Cross, London, illustrate in an advertisement in this issue three of their popular toilet specialities.

ANDREWS' LIVER SALT.

The proprietors of Andrews' Liver Salt, Messrs. Scott & Turner, Ltd., Newcastle-on-Tyne, are making a special offer regarding deliveries during April of this saline. The announcement is made in the advertisement pages.

MALT VINEGAR.

The Cambrian Vinegar Co., Ltd., Elland Road, Leeds, warrant their vinegars to be produced by vinous or acetous fermentations from malt and grain. The company offer to send samples and prices to any of our readers.

THE CHEMISTS' EXHIBITION.

This annual fixture, arranged by the "British and Colonial Druggist," will be open this year from May 5 to 9. The Exhibition will be held in the Holland Park Skating Rink, close to Shepherd's Bush Station, London, W., and promises to be very attractive, so much so, indeed, that the Pharmaceutical Society is holding a special meeting to synchronise with it.

GEHE'S REPORT.

We have read with much interest the 1913 report of Messrs. Gehe & Co., Dresden and London, which extends to 184 pages. It is chiefly devoted to the commerce of drugs and chemicals during 1912, the notes including valuable market statistics as well as scientific and technical information. The prefatory chapter is a broad-minded survey of the present condition of the world's commerce, that contains cogent reflections upon *Weltpolitik*, and those to whom German is familiar should get the report.

CASEIN FOODS

are still growing in popularity, and therefore attention is directed to the advertisement of the British Casein Co. (1911), Ltd., 24 Great Dover Street, London, S.E., where are noted several varieties, both packed ready for sale and in bulk. Milk casein is the basis in all the foods, the differences being in the combination of glycerophosphates, lecithin, or cocoa. The bulk foods can be adapted as chemists' special lines. These foods are prescribed largely in prevalent affections, such as neurasthenia and neuritis, for which until the introduction of nerve-foods treatment has been most unsatisfactory.

PACKED PHARMACEUTICALS

form a department to which special attention is given at present by Messrs. May, Roberts & Co., Ltd., 7-11 Clerkenwell Road, London, E.C. It has undergone much improvement of late, especially as regards the instalment of labour-saving devices. We saw in operation the latest type of seidlitz powder weighing-machine. This has an improved feed and cut-off, which ensures accuracy of weight within a grain. Another good idea just being fitted is to use compressed air for driving out viscous liquids, such as glycerin, castor oil, etc., from the bulk containers into bottles. This department is making special endeavour to give handsome-sized articles of artistic get-up to suit the large section of the public with moderate means. The most successful in this line is a six-penny skin-food, in which violets are the *motif* of the design on the exceptionally simple, yet artistic, label. Mr. Webb, the managing director, told us that the company is doing very good business in National Insurance supplies. An improvement has been effected recently in the show-room, which has been nearly doubled in size.

BRITISH SYPHONS.

The illustrated list of the British Syphon Manufacturing Co., Ltd., 55 and 56 Basinghall Street, London, E.C., is more than a price-list, it is a history and guide to the use and repair of aerated-water syphons. It begins with an interesting account of the origin of the syphon, and then introduces the modern syphon as exemplified in the products of the British Syphon Manufacturing Co. Explanations are given of the construction of the mechanical parts, the advantages of each variety being pointed out. Then follows a treatise on the filling of syphons and methods of cleaning and repairing, with illustrations of the apparatus and tools required. An important improvement is the porcelain-lined syphon with renewable seating, the special point being that the great drawback of leakage of porcelain-lined syphons due to cracked seating has been done away with entirely. In the older patterns a crack in the porcelain ruined the syphon-head, but as the seating—the vulnerable part—can be replaced at a trifling cost in the new form, considerable saving is effected. These reasons are set out in the new list, which should be studied by every chemist who fills syphons.

NEW REMEDIES AND SPECIALITIES.

Messrs. Parke, Davis & Co., Beak Street, Regent Street, London, W., are now sending out their compressed tablets specially for Insurance dispensing in semilunar-shaped flasks, which can be comfortably carried in the vest-pocket. The bottles are made of amber glass, and each contains twenty-five tablets—e.g. cathartic compound improved, and aloin, bellad. strych., and cascara sagrada in tiny flasks the mixed treatment tablets, acetyl-salicylic acid and ferrous carbonate compound, in larger flasks. The wholesale prices of these range from 5s. 9d. to 6s. 3d. per dozen bottles, less 25 per cent., and the retail prices are fixed by P.A.T.A. rules, so that a good profit is assured. Borol is the name which the firm give to a new antiseptic solution in which the active constituents are sodium borate, bicarbonate, and benzoate, with eucalyptol, thymol, menthol, and oil of pine. It is used as a lotion, gargle, mouth-wash, or nasal douche, being diluted with six times its volume of water. It is put up in 4, 8, 16, and 80 fl. oz. bottles. A somewhat similar composition in tablet form for nasal douches is No. 34, but this is of wider application. To the increasingly popular Euthymol series the firm have added a new container for the Euthymol shaving-stick, the decorative tone being of salmon-colour. The stick is a combination of the Euthymol antiseptics with a pure superfatted soap, and we notice that it affords a particularly agreeable shave without irritating the skin in the slightest. Chemists can sell it with confidence; 10½d. retail is the P.A.T.A. price. The firm are also supplying yellow oxide of mercury ointment (prepared from freshly precipitated yellow mercuric oxide), in collapsible tubes at 5s. per dozen. The label is intended to be removed from the tube when it is dispensed. The growing demand for iodine solutions in surgical antiseptics, and the belief that fresh alcoholic solution should be used, have induced Messrs. Parke, Davis & Co. to put up pure iodine in tubes of 5½ gr., which with half an ounce of rectified spirit, gives the solution required by surgeons.



INCOME-TAX LEDGER.

Mr. Effingham Wilson, 54 Threadneedle Street, London, E.C., has brought out an inexpensive ledger for traders designed with a view to simplifying income-tax returns. This is known as Leeming's "Simple Ledger for the Tradesman," costs 1s., and provides space for one year's trading results.

DIABETES REMEDY.

The Sanol Manufacturing Co. of Canada, Ltd., state in their advertisement that Sanol's Anti-Diabetes is a remedy for diabetes mellitus, and that it has established a record of complete cures. The distributing agents for this country are Messrs. Roche, Tomsitt & Co., 4 Red Cross Street, London, E.C.

PARIS HAT-DYES.

Messrs. T. S. Jackson & Sons, Corner Wharf, Malt Street, Old Kent Road, London, S.E., manufacture Paris straw-hat dye in thirty different shades. The dyes are of the quick-drying, non-glossy variety, and the bottles are packed in cartons. The shades are enumerated in the firm's advertisements in this issue. Showcards are supplied with specimens of straw dyed to the various Paris hat-dyes. For the coming summer at home and for Colonial trade these dyes are good business.

GRASSE REVISITED.

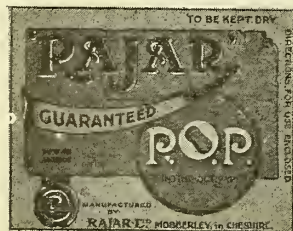
This is the title of the principal article in this month's issue of the "Perfumery and Essential Oil Record." It tells of the visit paid by the Editor (Mr. John C. Umney), in company with Mr. Walter Hills, past President of the Pharmaceutical Society, to the principal distilling and flower-perfume manufacturers in Grasse. The fields and factories of Messrs. Roure-Bertrand Fils are chiefly dealt with in the monograph, which is illustrated with interesting pictures. The issue contains other useful and instructive articles.

PILL AND TABLET LIST.

Messrs. Howard Lloyd & Co., Ltd., 20 Asfordby Street, Leicester, have issued a new price-list of pills, tablets, capsules, and packed goods. The list runs to thirty-six pages, and seems to include almost every combination of medicaments used in pill, tablet or capsule form. The capsules are the "Colloid" brand. The packed goods referred to are a useful selection, and include packed pills and tablets, cough-mixtures, tonics, effervescent preparations, emulsions, and toilet preparations. A copy of the list will be sent to any chemist who applies for it.

THE RAJAR GUARANTEE.

The photographic plates, papers, and roll films sold by Rajar, Ltd., Moberley, Cheshire, are guaranteed to give satisfaction.



This point is emphasised on the new series of labels now in use for these products. We reproduce one of these, and may note that the originals are in colours, the parchment background is yellow, the seal red, other details being in brown and pale green. The labels are distinctive and attractive, and with the guarantee will often decide a wavering customer in favour of the Rajar goods.

HARLENE IN CANADA.

Mr. L. G. Day, of the Edwards' Harlene Co., 104 High Holborn, London, W.C., is leaving for Montreal on May 22 to establish a wholesale depot and distributing agency for Edwards' Harlene in Canada. The company have appointed Messrs. Frank L. Benedict & Co., St. Alexander Street, Montreal, as their wholesale agents. The intention of the company is to manufacture Harlene in Canada in order to avoid the heavy import duties. The retail selling prices of Harlene in Canada will be 35c.,

80c., and \$1.50, and Astol (hair-restorer) 85c. and \$1.50, carriage paid. The company also propose during the next twelve months to commence manufacturing their products in Australia, South Africa, and the Far East. In an advertisement in this issue the company state that they have decided to present another million free outfits for the Harlene hair-drill to the first million men and women applying for them.

WAR ON FLIES.

It is for chemists to take advantage of the campaign against flies which is being waged with considerable vigour by certain health authorities. A reduction in the number of flies is desirable on the score of comfort, and there is no better method of bringing this about than by the use of trustworthy fly-catchers. Messrs. Kay Brothers, Ltd., Stockport, manufacture several types—e.g., the "Vampire" spiral wire, the "Flysac" tape, and bands 2 in. and 4 in. wide. The company also supplies "Big Bat" and "Falcon" fly-papers, which form is still preferred in some countries. In the "Hints on Stocking Fly-catchers" we note a useful recommendation to those who have a few fly-catchers left over from the previous season: it is that at the beginning of a season when there are but few flies about do not sell old stock, but keep such until later, when flies are plentiful and fly-catchers rapidly fill.

WHOOPIING-COUGH INHALANT.

Messrs. Hall, Forster & Co., Ltd., manufacturing chemists, Elswick Court, Newcastle-on-Tyne, make a vaporiser which is much in demand during epidemics of whooping cough. The best form of the vaporiser is shown in the sketch, this retailing at 2s. 9d. There is used with the apparatus Foster's Fenolin Fluid, sample bottles of which are supplied with the vaporiser. The sale of the fluid forms a regular line to customers who experience the beneficial effect of the inhalation. A cheaper form of vaporiser is sold under the name of the "Eldon" and shown in the advertisement in this issue, where also particulars as to protected retail prices are given.



THE CARBINE WATCH-POCKET CAMERA

is going to be a big feature in the coming photographic season. Messrs. W. Butcher & Sons, Ltd., Camera House, Farringdon Avenue, London, E.C., have been engaged for some months past in making preparations for booming this line, the camera itself, although so small, being an instrument of precision and made with scientific accuracy. It takes pictures $2\frac{1}{2}$ by $2\frac{1}{4}$, using any standard size roll-film. There is a wide choice of the best makes of lens. Other special features are the speeded shutter and the lock-focussing movement. The 2l. 5s. model, fitted with Aldis "Uno" anastigmat, is wonderful value, and is bound to be popular. Messrs. Butcher & Sons give chemists every aid in advertising. They supply a cut-out of a girl taking a snapshot, to hold the camera itself, as well as a pedestal stand for the same. They also send dummy camera-boxes, specimen prints and enlargements, an artistic poster in colours, shelf strips, price tickets, and introduction booklets. They do not stint the advertising matter, and will supply customers with handbills printed with own name and address. We may mention that between March 1 and April 1, 75,000 copies of Butcher's Abridged Catalogue for 1913 were sent out. This 200-page pocket list is adapted to each customer's requirements, and proved so popular as to be out of print. The "Popular Pressman" is the camera for the scientific snapshotter. This reflex camera sells at 9l. 15s. for quarter-plate size, fitted with Aldis-Butcher anastigmat working at f/4.5. It represents the highest form of focal plane reflex camera at a low price. Messrs. Butcher & Sons will be pleased to supply particulars of these two cameras and also of their ever-popular "Klimax" series on demand.

PERFUME MAKING.

The making of perfumes in general is the subject of the advertisement in this issue of the Crown Perfumery Co., Homerton, London, N.E. It embodies an article which appeared in "The Sphere," describing the factory at Homerton. Reference is made to the Jazmin del Pais perfume, one of the firm's latest productions, and illustrations of process are included.

P.A.T.A. PRICES.

The additions to the Protected List during April are: Carnrick's dry soluble peptonoids; Duncan Flockhart's Baumol soap; Givaudan's preparations; Hay's specialities; McDougall's Kur-Mange; Salvine dentifrice; To-Kalon additional preparations; Visem powder. The removals are Diamalt preparations and Olmsted's preparations.

VEROX PROFIT.

A coupon is attached to the advertisement in this number of Tooth's Extract of Meat Co., 12 Duke Street, London, S.E., which, when filled in, entitles the chemist who sends it to receive a free sample of Verox with price-list. The points which are emphasised are that Verox is a highly concentrated fluid beef, and hence cheap, while it also bears 25 per cent. profit for the retailer.

ALMOND AND PEACH-KERNEL OILS.

At the present time when owing to scarcity the prices of almonds and similar kernels have gone so high as to materially enhance the value of the oils, it is interesting to note that Messrs. Plantin Bros., 5 Water Lane, Great Tower Street, London, E.C., as the agents of M. Joseph Gazan, Marseilles, will be pleased to furnish samples and quotations to inquirers.

DENTAL-PLATE BRUSHES.

Dentists are now insisting that their patients should employ special brushes for cleaning dentures. This has enabled the manufacturer to produce brushes especially adapted for the purpose, and has created a demand from the public. Many people, on the other hand, are not aware that special brushes are made for dental plates, so that a small show of the brushes should open up new business. Five distinct patterns are illustrated in the advertisement in this issue of Messrs. Bidwell, Bidwell & Co., Ltd., Axminster, and it will be noted that three brushes in each dozen are supplied mounted on a showcard.

THE SEABOTT SWEETMEAT SOOTHER.

A new idea in soothing-teats is brought out by Mr. Paul Wador, 10 Christopher Street, London, E.C. The teats made in accordance with the Seabott patent are so arranged that sweetmeats, or even such things as condensed milk, can be placed inside, thus making the soothing-teat more attractive to the fretful infant. One form of the teat has an aluminium fitting on the open end of the teat, with a little lid that can be readily opened to admit of the introduction of the nourishing and toothsome element. The teats are perforated to allow the attractive nature of the contents to become evident to the infant. Another form has a bone fitting readily taken to pieces for the purpose of charging the teat. It is obvious that the teats are very easily cleaned, so that hygienic requirements are satisfied.

CHEMIST-OPTICIANS' SHOWCARD SERVICE.

Colonial chemists, as well as those at home, are taking considerable interest in the Bell showcard service which is advertised in THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST. Most people have agreed as to the desirability of good showcards, but the difficulty has been to obtain number and variety. This has been overcome by the Bell Advertising Co., 118 Holborn, London, E.C., who offer an excellent service of cleverly worded cards. The latest development of the system is to supply cards for the auxiliary trades of the chemists' main business. The set of cards for opticians is well drawn up, and there is evidence in the wording of the cards that care has been taken to meet the ethical requirements of the optical branch. It is no mean achievement to have devised smart wording for such a large number of cards without wounding the susceptibilities of opticians, who are striving to keep the practice of optics

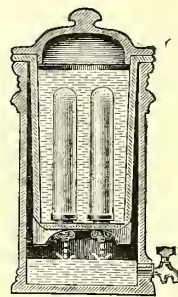
free from practices objectionable to the medical profession and to opticians as a whole.

TOILET BRUSHES.

The price of toilet brushes depends upon the cost of the bristle, and this commodity is regulated largely by the Leipzig Fair, which takes place at Easter time, when some hundreds of thousands of pounds' worth of bristles are disposed of, the bristles being of the winter crop, during which season the best bristles are grown. "The Easter 1913 Fair will be remembered by all who attended it as one at which record prices were established," is what an important bristle house writes. This is in reference to good-quality white bristles, chiefly used for making hair-brushes; and the prices were about 20 per cent. higher than last September. Brushes, therefore, will be dearer.

CHEAVIN'S IMPERIAL FILTER.

We have had an opportunity this week of examining a Cheavin's "Imperial" filter. The filter is on the modern Pasteur system, in which porous tubes are employed as the filtering medium. The "Imperial" filter is made of earthenware, the inner vessel having inside it the filtering tubes. The advantages of a filter on this system are its simplicity and the readiness with which it can be cleaned. The cleaning operation, which consists in boiling and scrubbing the filter tubes, is so simply described that an untrained servant would have no difficulty in understanding it. The season for water-filters is approaching, and there is no reason why the trade should be allowed to pass into the hands of other traders. By reason of the scientific principles upon which the "Imperial" filter is constructed, it is a very suitable one for sale by chemists, especially those in the Colonies where filtration of domestic water is indispensable. The filter is made by the Fulham Pottery and Cheavin Filter Co., Ltd., Fulham, London, S.W.



NEW SEASON GOODS.

A visit to Messrs. F. Schutze & Co., Black Bull Works, London, N., gave us an opportunity of seeing their artistic efforts in millinery as applied to bathing-caps for the coming season. It rather surprised our representative when he was told that these were made on the premises, some of the models having the real Parisian style. To his mind, the sun-bonnet types were the most effective. It was difficult to believe that the brilliant coloured satin-like materials in the popular purple, orange, and shot effects had a waterproof basis, so natural did they look. They ranged in price from 10s. to 100s. per dozen. There were also many new coloured patterns for the ordinary round bathing-cap. In sponge bags, a new line is of pure opaque rubber in various colours, with binding to match. The quality of these is self-evident from their velvety touch. They run from 16s. to 40s. a dozen, subject to discount. The sponge-bags, with pouch front, or fitted with pockets, are increasing in popularity, and quite a variety of new patterns is available. The different patterns of nursing aprons in check and fancy sateen were also surprising. Flesh-gloves and bath-strips in loofah, turco, and calefacio, or combinations of these, have been further improved upon, the bindings being particularly neat. We saw some Corbyn's perfumes in a new style of cut-glass globe-stoppered bottles, which are just being placed on the market. The containers are of the flat type, and, although of exceptional lustre, are available filled at quite a reasonable price. We also saw samples of cases for Christmas perfumery, and it was evident that next season's goods will be more handsome than ever. As we were going away we noticed two vanloads of goods of over a ton each leaving for shipment to America.

PERSIAN TRAGACANTH.—H.M. Consul-General at Ispahan reports that it is estimated that the yield of tragacanth in 1912 amounted to about 38,000 shahmans (4,410 cwt.), against 40,000 shahmans (4,640 cwt.) in 1911.

National Health Insurance.

Administration of Medical Benefit as regards Chemists' Interests.

First Quarter's Experiences.

We print below two communications which we have received, among others, from chemists on the dispensing panel, and propose to print others as space permits. The first "experience" is from an English provincial chemist, the second from one in Scotland. We have received none from Wales. We do not, for obvious reasons, indicate the source of the reports, further than to state the country of origin, and any other reports received will be treated in the same manner.

REPORT BY A CHEMIST IN ENGLAND.

There has been an increase of 5 per cent. on returns from ordinary business during the three months as compared with 1911 and 1912. The returns for the first three months of 1911 and 1912 were practically identical, the difference being merely a matter of shillings. In addition to ordinary business we have dispensed 2,500 Insurance prescriptions, value 70*l.* if paid for in full. Against this we have to put :

Marked increase in sale of largely advertised and profitless proprietaries.

An equally marked decrease in the sale of own preparations and counter-prescribing.

Petty thefts from counter, etc., have become common during busy times.

A small but profitable optical business has been strangled, as customers for glasses will not enter a crowded shop.

Hours of business prolonged, and no leisure whatever during the day.

Physical and mental strain enormous. Result: a good part of Sundays and half-holidays has to be spent in bed to recuperate.

Neither time nor inclination for social intercourse.
Personally, I feel degraded from the position of a respected individual to that of a mere cog-wheel in a piece of machinery. Consequently, the game appears to be not worth the candle.

The above appears to be a formidable series of set-backs, but no doubt we shall be able eventually to adapt ourselves to the altered conditions, and come up smiling. (51/61.)

REPORT BY A CHEMIST IN SCOTLAND.

A cheque in hand for the first quarter's account for supply of drugs, etc., while temporarily soothing one's feelings, naturally leads to a survey and a comparison. What has been gained or lost by the dispensing of drugs under State Insurance? In my case the issue is perfectly clear: Conditions normal, prescriptions previously dispensed, and no inrush of new work under the scheme. The paying of nearly 40 per cent. of prescriptions dispensed is simply transferred from the private patient to the Insurance Committee. The loss incurred exactly works out at $3\frac{1}{2}d.$ per prescription, taking an average of 1,000. Thus every pharmacist who dispenses 1,000 prescriptions per quarter suffers a loss, compared with former dispensing, of 14l. 11s. 8d., or 58l. 6s. 8d. per year. Representing, as this sum does, clear profit, the loss in many instances must make all the difference between a modicum of comfort and much discomfort. While the law of average brings out this result, an analysis makes the position more doleful, inasmuch as the greatest loss is in pure dispensing, towards which all training has been directed. That is, the prices obtained for dressings, appliances, and proprietary goods are nearly normal, and tend to counterbalance what would even be a greater loss. The greatest difference lies in the pricing of mixtures, powders, ointments, pills, and lotions according to their commercial value, *plus* a varying profit and a dispensing-fee which in most cases is utterly inadequate to recompense for skilled time put into the dispensing. On a careful record the average dispensing-fee works out at from 9d. to 1s. per hour. A new feature in dispensing prices has been the number of halfpennies.

Medical men in many instances have not improved matters. It is no uncommon thing for them now to order large quantities of mixtures with teaspoonful doses, instead of table-spoonfuls as formerly, while the net cost of the ingredients does not show anything like a corresponding increase in value. It is possible that in some cases an increased demand for medicine may compensate for decrease in prices, but even then, if further assistance is required to cope with the increase, this gain may be quite counterbalanced. We do not feel we have any occasion to rejoice over the change that has come in this manner of dispensing, nor have there been any congratulatory dinners in this quarter. We do feel, however, that the sum we are losing per prescription ought, in

all fairness to be added to the dispensing-fee as a legitimate return for the responsible work involved, and all agitation should be in this direction. (53/5.)

Chemists' Account Forms.

The Kent Insurance Committee issues two forms for chemists rendering their accounts, Form D 1 (for 100 prescriptions) and Form D 2 (with three cash columns) for summary. We subjoin the heading of Form D 1:

KENT INSURANCE COMMITTEE

Dr to _____

Account for Drugs, Medicines, and Appliances

Month ending

Quarter ending

Prescriptions should be made up in batches of 100 numbered consecutively and entered below. The totals of each set should be carried to the Summary Form D2. Forms D1 should be attached to the prescriptions to which they relate.

No. of Priming line	Amount			No. of Priming line	Amount			No. of Priming line	Amount			No. of Priming line	Amount		
	£	s	d		£	s	d		£	s	d		£	s	d
1				Brought forward 26				Brought forward 51				Brought forward 76			

This is simple undoubtedly, but a foolscap sheet of this expensive nature for each 100 prescriptions adds unnecessarily to the working expenses.

Prescription-copying Fee.

Doctors do not like it, as it may eat into the "floating sixpence." At a meeting of the State Sickness Insurance Committee of the British Medical Association on April 10 the matter was discussed, and the following letter was ordered to be addressed to the National Insurance Joint Commissioners :

April 14, 1913.

SIR,—

National Insurance Act: Charges by Chemists.

It was reported to the last meeting of the State Sickness Insurance Committee that the revised tariff of drugs and dispensing charges drawn up by the Pharmaceutical Standing Insurance Committee contains the following paragraph:

"Where a duplicate prescription is not supplied a fee of 1d. shall be charged for copying."

The Committee understands that this revised tariff has not yet been under the consideration of the Commissioners, and that in considering the modification of any existing tariff the Commissioners would require to have before them the views of the local Medical Committees concerned. It is understood, however, that in some areas the particular drug tariff above referred to has not been submitted to the local Medical Committees concerned, though the local pharmacists are presenting the revised tariff as if it had official sanction.

The State Sickness Insurance Committee, on the evidence before it, believes that the imposition of such a charge is unnecessary, and would be unjustifiable deduction from the moneys due to the medical practitioners, and is convinced that if the tariff is allowed to come into force the profession will suffer a serious injustice.

I am instructed, therefore, to urge that the Insurance Commissioners will not approve of the proposed charge in respect of copying prescriptions.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

ALFRED COX,

Medical Secretary.

Secretary, National Health Insurance.

We hope the effect of this will be to bring home to the doctors the necessity for them writing their prescriptions in duplicate, so that they may earn the penny. It is not fair to ask chemists to earn it and not pay them.

Medical Benefit for Asylum Staffs.

At the meeting of the Metropolitan Asylums Board on April 19 the Finance Committee submitted a report upon the question of the Medical Benefit of the Board's resident employes. In January the committee had the question under consideration, and submitted reasons which made it impracticable for such employes to be attended by outside medical practitioners on the ordinary panel. At that time it appeared that the best course (and that advised by the Commissioners) was to request the Insurance Committees for the counties concerned to allow a collective agreement to be made between the employes and the Board for the

provision of medical attendance, drugs, etc., whereby the managers would receive the remuneration available for those services under the Act; and the Board adopted this plan. Since January, however, the report states, circumstances have undergone a considerable change, and after prolonged correspondence with the Insurance Commissioners and with the London County Insurance Committee it appears that the most effective arrangement would be for the Board's medical officer for general purposes to enter into a formal agreement with the London County Insurance Committee for the attendance and treatment of the Board's insured staff resident in the London institutions only on what is called the "capitation" basis; it being understood that he will give such treatment by deputy through the medical superintendents and the assistant medical officers, and would pay to the Board's treasurer the fees for medical benefit when received from the Insurance Committee. Under this arrangement the managers will receive through the medical officer the money available in respect of medical benefit for all the resident insured employees at the rate of 7s. per head per annum, and part, if any, of the "floating sixpence." So far as the medical officer is concerned, his personal duties in this connection will be nominal, including merely the formal signature of the agreement, of certain returns, and the claiming, receipt, and payment over to the treasurer of the fees for medical benefit. The medical officers of the Board will continue to give medical attendance to the staff by the terms of their appointments, and the additional work entailed on them will merely be the keeping of certain simple records of the sickness of staff, as required by the Commissioners, and the signing of such certificates as may be necessary to enable the employees to recover the other benefits to which they may be entitled under the Act. Some proportion of the fees to be received from the Insurance Committee should, however, be paid to the medical superintendents for allocation by them among the assistant medical officers who will carry out these extra duties, the proportion so allocated to be decided upon at a later date. In regard to drugs and appliances, the committee state that they are advised that the Insurance Committee will be prepared to accept the nomination of one of the Board's dispensers to sign the formal agreement with them for the dispensing of such medicines, etc., as may be required by the resident insured staff, and to furnish the necessary claims, the actual work being done by the dispenser at each institution, as at present. The payments receivable by the nominated dispenser will be paid to the treasurer. Although the arrangement will entail on the dispensers some amount of record-keeping, it is proposed to cover such services by an increased remuneration. Somewhat similar arrangements with regard to the institutions outside the area of the London County Insurance Committee should be entered into if the respective Insurance Committees agree. Modifications may be necessary in the matter of the supply of drugs; while in the case of institutions with a non-resident medical officer, who may or may not be already on the local panel, the arrangements to be made may require special consideration. The report was adopted by the Board without discussion. It will be observed that it follows the lines laid down by the Commissioners in their memorandum referred to in the *C. & D.*, March 1, index folio 341.

Dispensing Arrangements.

Readers will bear in mind that the new pricing of prescriptions began on Tuesday, April 15. Some Insurance Committees want the prescriptions to be sent in weekly in bundles of 100. The pricing is facilitated with the new "C. & D." Pricing-card (7d. by post), which contains the General and Special rules and the Ready-reckoning table.

Aldershot.—The Insurance Committee have decided not to put in a stock of surgical appliances, as the cost would come out of the money for payment of chemists, and it would be an injustice to them. This was at the meeting last week, when also an account was received from the local chemists' Association for printing window cards in accordance with the fourth schedule of the regulations. This had been referred to the Hants County Committee, the Clerk of which replied that it could not be met, as the chemists had issued the cards for their own convenience. It was decided not to print the dispensing panel, but to exhibit two copies in public places.

Berkshire.—The Insurance Committee are to make a preliminary payment of 30s. per 100 prescriptions dispensed to chemists sending in the Pharmaceutical Standing Committee's receipt for the number charged.

Bolton.—At the meeting of the Insurance Medical Benefit Sub-committee on April 22 the accounts of the doctors and chemists were considered, and it was decided to recommend

the payment to the former on their lists sent in to April 14, less 10 per cent. for adjustment. The chemists' accounts are to be paid in the same way as far as the money in the drug fund allows. There are thirty-three chemists and 100 doctors on the new panel, which is to be printed and circulated. It was suggested that the doctors should continue to receive the red tickets for another three months.

Brighton.—The local chemists' Association, following the report of last week, state that the Medical Committee have agreed provisionally to continue prescribing in triplicate form. Prescriptions intended for Brighton are sometimes written upon "East Sussex" forms in error, and in such cases the words "East Sussex" may be struck out and "Brighton" substituted, or *vice versa*. The Insurance Commissioners have sanctioned the extra late fee (after 9 P.M.) of 3d. from April 15 for prescriptions marked "Urgent."

Buckrose.—A meeting of the Buckrose Pharmacists' Association was held on April 14 (the President, Mr. J. V. Mainprize, in the chair) to receive and consider the report of the deputation to the Medical Sub-committee of the East Riding Yorkshire Insurance Committee. The Secretary (Mr. P. Hawkins) stated that the delegates, with others from the Holderness and Howden Association, were favourably received by the Sub-committee, and had done everything possible to press home the facts regarding rural dispensing. Duplicate prescription-forms are still to be used. An extra fee of 3d. would be allowed on prescriptions marked "Urgent" dispensed after 1 P.M. on the half-holidays and on Sundays. The two Secretaries for Buckrose and Holderness (Messrs. P. Hawkins and C. Morrow) were requested to remain during the interview with the doctors on the questions of repeat mixtures and rural dispensing. It was made clear that the "floating sixpence" would not be given to the doctor who received capitation in rural districts, but would go to the drug fund and be shared out with the remainder of the fund, if any. A letter was read from the Secretary of the East Riding Insurance Committee suggesting that 90 per cent. of the amount of all accounts should be paid as soon as possible after presentation, and the remainder at the end of the year if the Commissioners approved, and also that in future accounts be rendered monthly.—At a combined meeting of the East Riding Associations the new drug tariff was considered. It was decided to ask that 3ij. should be charged at the drachm rate; that the latter part of the clause, "charge to nearest ½d. up or down," be deleted; also that 1½d. per 3 ozs. be the price for infusions. The reports were approved, a resolution being moved that the 90-per-cent. payment be accepted. A levy of 2s. 6d. per member was agreed upon towards the funds of the Pharmaceutical Standing Committee on Insurance.

Derby.—At a meeting of the Insurance Committee on April 16 the Finance Sub-committee reported that they had been asked for a ruling as to whether "Panopepton" prescribed by a doctor for an insured person might be treated as a medicine, and charged to the drug fund. They recommended that this should be done. Mr. W. Elmitt moved that the recommendation be sent back to the Sub-committee for reconsideration, his chief point being that the preparation named is a proprietary article. This was seconded by Dr. Barber, and agreed to.—A meeting of the Derbyshire Pharmaceutical Association was held at the Bell Hotel, Derby, on the same day, Mr. R. Wright presiding. It was resolved to bring the rural area question before the next joint meeting of the local Medical and Pharmaceutical Committees. A sub-committee, consisting of Messrs. Cope, Elmitt, Taylor, Wain, Southern, Gelsthorpe, Riley, and Ridyard, was appointed to meet the Medical Benefit Sub-committee of the County Insurance Committee in regard to the next term, and obtaining, if possible, more favourable terms of service. An amendment to the effect that there should be no fixed hours of service and no extra dispensing-fee for "urgent" medicines dispensed outside such hours was defeated. The Secretary (Mr. Clement W. Ridyard) adds that as a result of the meeting referred to the following arrangements were made for the new period:

1. The new tariff was adopted by the Committee subject to the following modifications:

(a) That no fee for copying be a charge on the drug fund, retention of the "triplicate" prescription form rendering such copying unnecessary.

(b) That poison-bottles still be a charge on the drug fund, each course allowing of no inducement to contravene the provisions of the Poisons Acts, and being without any prejudice to the drug fund on account of the saving *re* copying.

2. That the hours of service be stated as from 8.30 A.M. to 8.30 P.M., that on prescriptions marked "Urgent" and presented outside such hours an extra dispensing-fee of 3d.—not to exceed 6d. on any compound—be chargeable by the pharmacist.

The Association has decided to support the Glasgow Association in its proprietary movement.

Doncaster.—A meeting of the Doncaster Association of Pharmacists was held at the Albany Hotel on April 15, the President (Mr. W. E. Plant) in the chair. There were present eight other members and the Hon. Secretary (Mr. Harry W. Stiles). The Secretary reported upon an interview he has had with the Assistant Clerk to the West Riding Insurance Committee. He enumerated several points that had been in doubt, among others the fact that the Committee will not pay (1) 1½d. for siss. of tincture, but only 1d.; (2) for distilled water after the end of the first quarter; or (3) an emulsion-fee upon any of the tariff emulsions. He also gave them the lump-sum prices which the Checking Committee had agreed to allow for the mixtures in the Doncaster Pharmacopœia. A discussion took place upon the necessity of Thursday evening opening for Insurance dispensing. The Secretary stated that he had interviewed, either personally or by telephone, all those doctors who had the largest Insurance practices, and, with one exception, they all said there was no need for the chemists to open on Thursday evening; this one exception said that under no condition would he do any dispensing at any time. Ultimately it was proposed by the Secretary, seconded by Mr. Playford, and carried, that matters be left where they are for the present, until there is a real demand for Thursday evening service, when a *rota* will then be formed. The following were chosen to represent the chemists upon the District Insurance Committee: Messrs. W. E. Plant, Harry W. Stiles, and H. W. Shaw. The Glasgow and West of Scotland Pharmacists' Association's letter regarding cut prices of patent medicines was dealt with, and Messrs. W. E. Plant and Harry W. Stiles were chosen as delegates to the Local Associations' meeting on May 7.

Dudley.—At a meeting of the Insurance Committee on April 18 the supply of medicines, etc., on Sundays and early-closing days was referred to. Drs. Wilkinson and Higgs stated that they had been giving medicine away on those days owing to chemists' shops being closed, and Dr. Messiter said the doctors were ready and willing to dispense medicines when the pharmacies are closed, but they would regard it as a hardship to have to work seven days a week. Mr. Lee Thompson suggested that the chemists should adopt a *rota* of service for Sundays and early-closing days, but the Chairman (Alderman F. W. Cook, J.P.) reminded the Committee of the existence of the Shops Act. The matter was eventually referred to a conference of sub-committees to see what arrangements could be made.

Durham.—A deputation of pharmacists waited on the Medical Committee of the County Insurance Committee on April 18, when the revised tariff was agreed to, with the following additions: (1) 0.25 of a penny to count as ½d., and 0.75 as 1d.; (2) starred infusions, 2d. per 3 oz. or part of 3 oz.; (3) a short list of stock formulae to be priced at tariff rates.

Essex.—The Secretary of the county chemists' Association desires to inform Essex chemists that they should price on the old tariff until further notice. The committee of the Association are in negotiation with the Insurance Committee, and, as soon as agreed upon, the new tariff will be posted free to every member of the Association. Until then the old tariff holds good. [Should not the new tariff pricing begin as at April 15, no matter when it is adopted?—EDITOR.]

Glamorgan.—At a meeting of the Insurance Committee held at Cardiff last week deputations from doctors and chemists were received. Chemists submitted the revised tariff. The doctors objected to prescriptions being priced by the Pharmaceutical Standing Committee, but in view of difficulties in checking the accounts, and the time available for making the arrangements, it was resolved that the Standing Committee should check last quarter's accounts, and that an application be made to the Insurance Commissioners to appoint an independent staff for this purpose. The Committee felt that there is such a multitude of points to be considered between chemists and doctors, and resolved to arrange a joint conference with the three bodies for the purpose, all parties agreeing. It was explained that arrangements approved by the Committee under Section 15 (3) of the Act (see *C. & D. Diary*, p. 458) do not require the sanction of the Commissioners, and that the meaning of large bodies of men combining together to make their own arrangements for medical and surgical treatment is that each Association will be able to have connected with it a salaried staff. Either there will be dispensaries conducted independently of the medical staff, or drugs and appliances will be supplied under arrangements made with chemists, or otherwise. Under this scheme, however, the doctors are not permitted to do dispensing. The Committee approved of a batch of "collective own arrangements" under Section 15 (3).

Hampshire.—The Insurance Committee, in granting several applications from chemists to be placed on the panel, owing to special circumstances, decided that no further applications from chemists be granted during the current year. The Committee is asking the Commissioners to include trusses in the list of appliances.

Hartlepool.—A meeting of the Hartlepool Pharmacists' Association was held at West Hartlepool on April 17. Alderman Thos. Clarkson presided over a poor attendance of members. It was decided to subscribe 17. 1s. towards the funds of the Pharmaceutical Standing Committee on Insurance. The Secretary reported that the Insurance Committee had decided to continue the triplicate form of prescription.

Hull.—The Insurance Committee has appointed Mr. C. H. Greenside, dispenser of the Orthopaedic Hospital, as checker of the chemists' prescriptions at the rate of 1s. per 100.

Ipswich.—Messrs. Smalley, Cornell, and Stones (Hon. Secretary), representing the chemists' Association, have met the Insurance and Medical Committees, when the revised tariff was agreed to after a lengthy discussion regarding the copying-fee; the Medical Committee agreed to supply duplicates. A minimum of 4d. where dispensing-fee is charged and 3d. where not charged was again agreed to.

Isle of Ely.—The Insurance Committee has decided, in regard to doctors dispensing medicines for patients in rural areas, that the doctors should be notified that dispensing for such patients should be carried out either wholly by the doctor or the chemist, but not partially by each, except in cases of emergency. The Clerk intimated that from what he had heard from the chemists there would be sufficient balance from the drug fund to allow the doctors to have the whole of the "floating sixpence" out of the drug fund. The question of fixing the mile boundary in each town and village was left to the doctors and the chemists to settle. The Committee decided that the pricing of chemists' prescriptions should be done by the Pharmaceutical Standing Committee at 1s. per 100.

Isle of Wight.—Last week the Insurance Committee referred to a sub-committee a complaint from East Cowes that a chemist had refused to supply goods to an insured person because his shop was closed under the Shops Act.

Kirkcaldy.—The Insurance Committee decided on April 18 that, although chemists' shops are closed on Wednesday evenings, doctors' consultation hours should not be abolished on the same evenings. It was reported that the chemists' accounts for the quarter totalled 374£., while the amount received from the Commissioners was 313£. Mr. John Peebles, chemist, said that all over Scotland the charge would not be much over 1s., whereas in Kirkcaldy they had more than double. About half of the total sum charged was from the third ward of the burgh, and he thought inquiry should be made as to over-drugging, and why some doctor, or doctors, had three or four times more prescriptions than others. There had been no special epidemic to cause the extra expenditure. It was agreed to ask the Medical Committee to consider the matter and report, and meantime that 20 per cent. should be retained from the chemists' accounts.

Lancashire.—Liverpool chemists on the Lancashire dispensing panel have received a communication from the Clerk to this Committee to the effect that it is proposed to pay 3½d. per prescription, pending an examination of the bills, when the chemists have rendered their accounts for the quarter ending April 14. They ask that accounts be marked plainly on the envelopes "Chemists' Accounts." "Repeats" and "formulae arranged with local medical practitioners" must be grouped together, and the first one of the series must be fully written out and priced. Unless this is done the full details must be written on each duplicate prescription. Another communication points out that the agreement already signed covered the period ending April 14, or such later date as may be agreed upon. Consequently it will not be necessary to sign another sixpenny stamped agreement form. Those chemists who are agreeable to serve until January 14, 1914, can send a letter consenting to an extension of the existing agreement to the end of the medical year. This will meet the case. The Lancashire County Pharmaceutical Association has proposed to amend the tariff in a few particulars, the chief being increasing the charge of cod-liver oil to 1s. 3d. per pint. Few Liverpool chemists have had any "Lancashire" prescriptions.

Lancaster.—At a meeting of the district Pharmaceutical Association on April 21, Mr. F. N. Whitehead presiding. Messrs. Whitehead and Vince were appointed to represent the Association on the County Pharmaceutical Committee. The question of signing the new dispensing agreement was discussed, but nothing was done in the matter, as the local Insurance Committee for the district is not yet formed.

Liverpool.—Although April 21 (the last day for sending accounts to the Liverpool Insurance Committee) has passed, the whole of the accounts have not yet been received. Some chemists have had to get accountants' clerks to help them to price prescriptions and write their accounts. Upon the Cheshire side of the Mersey (New Brighton, Seacombe, Egremont, etc.) the chemists' accounts run from 5%, 10%, 15%, up to 20%; a chemist with a 20% bill thinks he has done well; while on the Liverpool side some have accounts amounting to 140% and 150% for the quarter. The general average is from 30% to 80%, representing 1,500 to 3,500 prescriptions. One chemist claims to have dispensed 5,000, while another states his figure to be 6,000. The arrangements for checking the pricing of prescriptions in Liverpool are not yet complete. Upon our representative making inquiries from the local authorities, he was informed that it had not yet been definitely decided which course to pursue; the matter is receiving the local committee's earnest consideration. The local authorities intend remitting an amount equivalent to 50 per cent. to each chemist when all the accounts have come in.

Manchester.—The checking of the Insurance prescriptions sent in by chemists on the panel for the first quarter has been placed in the hands of the local Pharmaceutical Insurance Committee. All the members (about twenty) are busily engaged in their spare time carrying out the task allotted to them. Elaborate rules and regulations have been drawn up to prevent members of the Committee dealing with or gaining any knowledge of the prescriptions from their own area, those whose business is in one district being given an entirely different district to check. It was felt that only by this method could the work of checking be promptly finished in a satisfactory manner. The Clerk to the Lancashire Insurance Committee has issued a letter to the chemists on the panel for the county, asking them to send in their accounts at once, up to and including April 14, 1913. In the letter he states that "if the prescriptions include 'repeats' or formulæ arranged with the local medical practitioner, all those of a like character must be grouped together, and the first one of the series must be fully written out and priced. Unless this is done, the full details must be written on each duplicate prescription. The County Committee propose to make a payment on account, equivalent to 3½% per prescription, at once, pending an examination of the bills sent in. In sending the accounts in chemists are asked to specially mark the outside envelope 'Chemists' Accounts.' The Manchester Insurance Committee have issued a letter to all the panel chemists, stating that future accounts for Insurance work must be rendered at the end of each calendar month, and that all the prescription-forms will be returned after the account has been checked, and must be carefully retained in order that they may be available for audit purposes when required. The fact that they will be returned to the chemist after they have been checked is quite different from what was at first understood. The Insurance Committee were to have kept them, not the chemists. The chemist will not be able to refuse to make up "repeats" if he happens to have the prescription in his possession. Many prescriptions have had to be taken back to the doctor this past week, because the chemist had sent the original prescription along with the first quarter's to the Insurance Committee.

Merthyr.—The Welsh Commissioners have informed the Insurance Committee that it would be possible for drugs and appliances, as could be properly demanded by insured persons treated in a hospital by a panel doctor, to be supplied by a chemist on the panel at the expense of the Insurance Committee.

Nottingham.—There has been a very great decrease in the amount of Insurance dispensing during the last fortnight. The Nottingham panels of medical men and pharmacists remain practically the same as in the first quarter. The dispensing panel contains the names of eighty chemists for the supply of drugs and appliances, while the other panels contain the names of nine drug-store keepers who cannot supply scheduled poisons or dispense prescriptions, and three firms for the supply of appliances only. Cheques proportionate to their accounts are to be sent to Nottingham pharmacists on May 8.

Oldham.—Messrs. Granville Wood & Co. have issued a circular letter to doctors in the district in which they say:

We have not renewed our contract with the Insurance Committees for the supply of drugs and appliances on account of our strong objection to the terms of Regulation 43 (2). We feel as business men we are unable to sign a contract supposed to be a business one, to which is attached a clause compelling under certain eventuality, uncontrollable by us, a deduction from the amount of our account, the percentage of such deduction being now unknown to the committees or ourselves. Until we have some definite information as to the total cost of the supply of drugs and

appliances we decline to continue service under the Insurance Act. When this information is available, and the probability of any deduction having to be made is known, we shall again consider our position.

The regulation referred to is the one which gives Insurance Committees power to discount chemists' bills if need be.

Sheffield.—Local panel chemists have, with one exception, signed the new contract of service for the next nine months. Several meetings have taken place with the doctors, who hold out against providing triplicate prescriptions, and it has been arranged that copies are to be made by chemists for the 1d. fee. Complaints as to the manner in which local pharmacists have interpreted the Act have been investigated, but they have been found to be without foundation. Chemists on the panel are now awaiting payment for the first three months' supplies. It has been discovered, according to one of the Yorkshire daily papers, that chemists in Sheffield are going to do very well out of the Act. A local pharmacist, who was interviewed, estimated the number of prescriptions in the year at 600,000, and the chemists' bill for the same period at 15,000% or 16,000%. He also ventured the opinion that on their dispensing under the Act the pharmacists would make about 50 per cent. profit.

Thames Valley.—At a meeting held at Kingston-on-Thames on April 23 an animated discussion took place on various points. Mr. Doe took objection to the manner in which the Surrey Insurance Committee demanded the signing of the renewal of the agreement almost by return of post. Complaint was made by Mr. Bunker that the method of rendering accounts to the London Insurance Committee is most unsatisfactory. Mr. Orry raised the question of "Repeats," and Mr. Tims the question of local or national stock mixtures. Mr. Neathercock replied to many of the questions raised. Mr. Woolcock then addressed the meeting. He recommended those present to communicate with either their local Association or him when they get those "return of post" demands from clerks of Insurance Committees. The question of repeats would possibly only be a question of time in educating the doctors to write the prescription out in full, and, where possible, to use some standard work found on every pharmacist's bookshelf. He said the London Insurance Committee is the only one which has not adopted the model form issued by the Insurance Commissioners.

Chemists of Barnsley, Blackburn, and Sutherlandshire are among those who have renewed dispensing agreements.

COMING EVENTS.

Wednesday, April 30.

Leeds Chemists' Association, Grand Central Hotel, at 8.45 p.m. Address by Mr. F. Pilkington Sargeant.
Manchester and Salford Chemists' Assistants' Association, Clarion Café, Market Street, Manchester, at 8 p.m. Annual meeting and election of officers.
Llandudno and Colwyn Bay Pharmacists' Association, British Hotel, Bangor, at 2.45 p.m. Annual meeting, and address by Mr. J. B. Francis (Wrexham).

Thursday, May 1.

Chemical Society, Burlington House, London, W., at 8.30 p.m. Among the papers to be communicated are the following: "Bismuthinitrites," by Mr. W. C. Ball; "The Estimation of Zinc as Zinc Ammonium Phosphate and Zinc Pyrophosphate," by Messrs. T. M. Findlay and A. C. Cumming; and "Conversion of Sodium Hydrosulphide into Sodium Monosulphide," by Messrs. J. S. Thomas and A. Rule.

Chemists' Assistants' Association, 73 Newman Street, Oxford Street, London, W., at 9 p.m. Annual meeting.

Great Yarmouth Pharmaceutical Association, at 8 p.m. Monthly meeting.

Western Pharmacists' Association, Gordon Hall, Restaurant Frascati, Oxford Street, London, W., at 8 p.m. Mr. E. Canny Ryall, F.R.C.S., will deliver a lecture on "Genito-Urinary Diseases," illustrated with lantern slides.

Friday, May 2.

Royal Institution, Albemarle Street, Piccadilly, London, W., at 9 p.m. Mr. H. G. Plimmer, F.R.S., on "Blood Parasites."

Edinburgh Chemists' Trade Association, 36 York Place, at 9 p.m. Annual meeting.

CHEMISTS' DENTAL SOCIETY.—The annual meeting will be held at the Chemists' Exhibition, Holland Park Skating Rink, London, W., on May 8, at 8 p.m. Meetings of the Executive Committee will be held at 6.30, of the Council at 7 p.m.

"Evans' Analytical Notes."

WE have received from Messrs. Evans Sons Lescher & Webb, Ltd., Liverpool and London, a copy of the 1912 "Notes" from their laboratories. It is an octavo pamphlet of 100 pages, and contains records of deductions from the examination of over 10,000 samples of chemicals, drugs, and oils. It is noted in the preface that last year's scarcity of essential oils and the materials from which they are distilled enhanced their value greatly, and sophistication was more marked. Evidence of this is scattered throughout the "Notes" in the analytical and other data respecting the samples examined. We do not attempt to quote these, for copies of the "Notes" are available on May 1 to chemists on application to either of the Evans houses. We quote, however, a number of paragraphs which appear to us to be of general interest.

ALUM.—Thirty-one samples tested. Three of these had the slightly excessive arsenic content of 6 to 24 parts per million; the remainder contained 5 parts per million and under. Three samples of burnt alum were found to be of somewhat higher content still. A sample of potash alum was contaminated with about 1 per cent. of ammonia.

ANTIMONY POTASSIUM TARTRATE.—The anhydrous salt continues to be the only variety examined. The best manufacturers now work to a stringent Bettendorf's test as a standard for arsenic, whereby no appreciable discoloration is produced with stannous chloride reagent strongly acidified with hydrochloric acid even after twenty-four hours in the cold. One sample only was observed to give indications in an hour.

BAY OIL.—Coincident with the rise in the value of this article there has been an increase in adulteration; eight samples out of sixteen submitted bore decided evidence of manipulation in varying degree, waste bay terpenes being mentioned as the adulterant.

CERESIN WAX.—By Cherceffsky's test ("Analyst," February 12, 59) five samples of yellow and bleached ceresins were found to have upwards of 50 per cent. paraffin adulteration.

COPAIBA.—Two pages of figures are given, and in the course of remarks on them and Cocking's method for detecting admixed African oil the "Notes" say: "This method of analysis has again been of much service, and in the experience of this laboratory has been sufficiently reliable for deciding commercially the purity of all balsams except that from Central America (Maracaibo), which variety, as pointed out a year ago, is at times subject to inexplicable changes under such treatment."

DIACETYLMORPHINE HYDROCHLOR. (HEROIN).—The precise chemical composition of the commercial substance is either variable or doubtful as regards the degree of hydration, for which contradictory figures have been published. . . . From the laboratory figures given it is observed that the proprietary article has apparently the greatest degree of hydration and the lowest acid content, with also the lowest proportion of acid excess. The other samples go in inverse sequence, the proportion of acid rising and that of water falling. The figures prove the futility of expecting the melting-point to fall within narrow limits. Further work is desirable, as it is quite evident that impurities are frequently present, although it is not possible to state whether such are isomeric by-products, with perhaps a little mono-acetyl derivative, or whether the variation is due to differing degrees of hydration and physical condition, with possibly a small amount of an acid diacetyl compound.

JALAP.—Two samples of undried tubers contained 10.3 and 12 per cent. of resin; and two samples of air-dried powder 11.3 and 11.9 per cent. resin. In an extended series of analytical observations with alcohol-extracted resin (selections of figures for which are given), it has been established that the ester-value is of chief practical importance as a differentiation from other purgative resins, this being of lowest value for jalap resin.

PERU BALSAM.—The so-called "artificial balsams"—perfumed mixtures containing synthetic benzyl benzoate—while not comparable with the true balsam, are undoubtedly being introduced in such quantities as escape positive detection. About three pages of data and remarks are given.

The "Notes" contain an appendix comprising: (1) Essential Oils and Derivatives; (2) Fixed Oils, Fats, and Waxes; (3) Analytical Values of Resinous Substances; (4) Table of Consecutive Melting-points; (5) Table of Equivalents for Alkaloid Estimations; (6) Volumetric Analysis Equivalents; and (7) Table of Chemical Impurities; besides an index of references to this and the previous three years' reports.

New Remedies.

Albyl, according to Madsen, consists of 54 per cent. acetyl-salicylic acid, 29 per cent. of sodium salicylate, 16 to 17 per cent. of sodium caseinate, 0.6 per cent. moisture, and traces of free salicylic acid. ("Pharm. Z.-H.," 1913, 9.)

Artemidol is the name given to tablets containing a special extract of *Artemisia Abrotanum*. It is used in diseases of the respiratory organs. ("Pharm. Z.-H.," 1913, 12.)

Cymarin is the name given by Bayer to the active principle of *Apocynum cannabinum*, which the company issue in tablets and in ampoules as a heart-remedy. It is more useful in many cases than digitalis, while it also has an important action on the kidneys. ("Deutsch. Med. Wochenschr.," 1913, 12.)

Ervasin.—This new remedy is acetyl-para-cresotic acid ($C_6H_4.CH_3.OCH_3.CO.OOH$), which consists of crystals melting at 141° to 142° . It is recommended in doses of 7 to 15 grains, three or four times a day, in cases of neuralgia and rheumatism.

Eupepsin is a digestive pepsin-wine with an aroma and taste similar to Chartreuse.

Gelodurat (Pohl).—An examination of this speciality by C. Mannich and L. Schwedes ("Pharm. Zeit.," 1913, 13), which has been published, shows that theobromine-sodium-salicylate and powdered digitalis are the active constituents. The capsule-material is gelatin hardened with formalin, and is insoluble in the gastric juice, but is easily dissolved in the alkaline intestinal secretion. Dr. de Jager has examined various gelodurat capsules with different contents, and he found that after one hour's digestion in an artificial gastric juice the contents always came out either wholly or in part, although the capsules were not dissolved like ordinary gelatin, but floated as a transparent mass in the liquid. Dr. de Jager believes, however, that the maker acts in perfectly good faith. ("Pharm. Wechblad.," 1913, 9.)

Pichigonal is the name given by Schäfer's Pharmacy to Dr. Kurt Lewinsohn's gelatin capsules, containing a special preparation of Pichi-Pichi, *Zea Mays*, and sandalwood oil. ("Pharm. Z.-H.," 1913, 11.)

Solargyl is a combination of silver oxide ($Ag_2O=30$ per cent.) with proteosen. It is in metallic scales. ("Pharm. Z.-H.," 1913, 11.)

POISONING FATALITIES.

ELEVEN deaths from the effects of taking poisons have been reported since our last issue.

Arsenic.—Mary Hannah Woodhouse (65), of Huddersfield Road, Stalybridge, described as the wife of a chemist living apart from her husband, took some powder in water in the belief that it was carbonate of soda. It was arsenic, and she died.

Prussic Acid.—Mr. Albert Cooper, chemist and druggist, 91 High Street, Huntingdon, was found dead in bed on the morning of April 23. According to the evidence at the inquest, deceased had taken a large dose of prussic acid. Mr. Cooper had been in indifferent health since he had a serious attack of neuritis two years ago; against the advice of members of his family he had during the past four months conducted his extensive business single-handed. On Tuesday he complained that his head was bad, and remarked during the day to his sister that "the blessed Insurance Act" worried him. A verdict of suicide while in an unsound state of mind was returned.

Veronal.—At the inquest at Clerkenwell on Alfred Hopton, coach ironmonger, who died at the Imperial Hotel, London, W.C., it was stated that the *post-mortem* examination showed that death was due to coma from kidney-disease accelerated by veronal-poisoning.—Ulrika M. E. Mohinke (40) committed suicide at Cromer by taking this soporific. At the inquest it was stated that a box containing fourteen cachets was found in the bedroom of deceased, with the label of Mr. Corder, chemist, Norwich, on it. Mr. David Dulley, chemist and druggist, Church Square, Cromer, said he knew deceased as a customer, and had only supplied her with tablets of veronal on April 5 and April 12. She entered into conversation, and seemed to know all about veronal. He gave her no directions. Medical evidence showed that she had been in the habit of taking veronal; also that Mr. Dulley was perfectly right in what he did, as he sold the veronal before it was scheduled.

"Corrosive poison," disinfectant, laudanum, morphine, spirit of salt, and sulphonal were the causes of death in the other cases.

Select Committee on Patent Medicines.

Appointed by the House of Commons to inquire into the sale of patent and proprietary medicines and medical preparations and appliances, and advertisements relating thereto.

Record of Evidence given on April 24.

ATTENDANCE OF COMMITTEE.

From a return which has been issued it appears that of the twenty-five meetings of the Committee which were held up to the close of last session Sir Henry Norman (the Chairman) and Mr. Glyn-Jones attended all, Mr. Lynch twenty-four, Mr. Harry Lawson twenty-three, Mr. C. Bathurst, Dr. Chapple, and Sir P. Magnus twenty-two, Mr. Newton twenty-one, Mr. Cawley twenty, Sir H. Dalziel fifteen, Mr. Hayden eleven, Mr. Haydn Jones ten, and Mr. O'Grady nine. Mr. Norman Craig, who was added on May 21, did not attend a single meeting, and Mr. Ingleby and Mr. Marshall Hall only one, while Mr. Hodge was present on only two occasions. Mr. O'Grady was added to the Committee on October 10, and Mr. Marshall Hall and Mr. Hodge were discharged on May 21 and October 10 respectively. The total expenses attaching to the attendance of witnesses up to the end of last session were only 9*l.* 17*s.*

It is not surprising, from what has been said above, to find that Mr. Norman Craig, M.P., has resigned his seat on the Committee. His successor is Mr. Samuel Hill-Wood, the Unionist member for the High Peak Division of Derbyshire. After being objected to on the previous Friday, Mr. Samuel Hill-Wood, M.P., was added to, and Mr. Norman Craig, M.P., was discharged from the Committee.

It is anticipated that the sittings of the Committee, so far as the taking of evidence is concerned, will be brought to a termination before the adjournment for the Whitsuntide Recess, which commences on May 8.

TO-DAY'S MEETING.

The Select Committee met again on Thursday, April 24. Sir Henry Norman presided, and other members of the Committee present were Mr. Glyn-Jones, Mr. Lynch, Dr. Chapple, Mr. Bathurst, Mr. Cawley, Mr. Lawson, Mr. Newton, Sir P. Magnus, and Mr. Hill-Woods. There was a fairly good attendance of the public, the officials of the Pharmaceutical Society being in strong force.

After an explanation by letter from Dr. Cox on behalf of the British Medical Association regarding advertisements of Wincarnis in the Association's "Journal," Mr. E. F. Harrison, the analyst, whose work in "Secret Remedies" has been called in question, was recalled. Mr. Harrison dealt with the various points of objection raised by Mr. Umney and Mr. Parry and was cross-examined by the Committee. Mr. Glyn-Jones, whose cross-examination was interrupted by the luncheon adjournment, brought up Mr. Harrison's remarks regarding *Euphorbia pilulifera* at the recent evening meeting of the Pharmaceutical Society. Mr. C. B. Allen, President of the Pharmaceutical Society, was the witness examined in the afternoon.

WINCARNIS ADVERTISEMENTS.

The Chairman, at the outset, said the Committee had received a letter from Dr. Alfred Cox, Secretary of the B.M.A., referring to certain answers given in evidence on March 27 by Mr. Rudderham, who appeared on behalf of Wincarnis. Questions were put by Mr. Lawson as to the conditions under which Mr. Rudderham had withdrawn the advertisements of his firm from the medical Press, and Mr. Lawson said:

At any rate, no objection was raised by them to its being advertised?—None whatever.

And the advertisement was not stopped by reason of their disapproving of the preparation, but for ordinary commercial reasons by you?—That is so.

You transferred your advertisements from the medical to the lay Press, with the object, I suppose, of securing a larger sale?—That is so.

After reading the above questions and answers, the Chairman said Dr. Cox had written saying that the effect of the answers of Mr. Rudderham to the questions conveyed the impression that the disappearance of the company's advertisement from the medical Press was due to their own initiative and for commercial reasons. He (Dr. Cox) was requested by the Council of the Association to say that the impression thus conveyed is misleading and not in accordance with the facts so far as the B.M.A. is concerned. An advertisement of Wincarnis which had been running in the "B.M.J." expired on June 18, 1910. At a meeting of the Council of the Association on October 26, 1910, the manager of the "Journal" was instructed, pending consideration of the whole question, to decline to accept in the meantime for insertion in the "Journal" any advertisement of Wincarnis or any medicated wine of the same kind. An advertisement of Wincarnis was afterwards tendered to the manager of the "B.M.J.," and this was not accepted.

The Chairman further stated that in a second letter Dr. Cox said that he had the authority of the manager of "The Lancet" for saying that "The Lancet" definitely refused the advertisement of Wincarnis some time before the "B.M.J." had done so, the reason being that they had had it analysed and found the description of it to be misleading. The manager of "The Lancet" is quite ready to substantiate this if he were asked.

Mr. Lawson: Of course, it will be open for rebutting evidence to be brought in reply to that statement?

The Chairman: The Committee will be prepared to receive any rebutting evidence.

ANALYTICAL INCONSISTENCIES.

Mr. E. F. Harrison, the analyst who is responsible for most of the formulæ published in "Secret Remedies" and "More Secret Remedies," was then re-called. He agreed with the Chairman's observation that he attended both by request of the Committee and also to give by his own desire evidence commenting on that put forward by other analysts.

Continuing, Mr. Harrison said that as most of the witnesses who had appeared for the London Chamber of Commerce had had a good deal to say about the evidence which he had given to the Committee and about the analyses which he had made, he wished to offer a few critical remarks about what had been said. He should not attempt to take up the time of the Committee by touching upon all the points which had been raised, but should confine himself to a few principal points. What he wished to say fell into three divisions: First, some of the evidence was, in his opinion, misleading in regard to the contents of the British Pharmacopœia, and to the qualifications and experience necessary for an analyst who engaged in the examination of secret medicines especially his own qualifications and experience. Secondly, certain witnesses had suggested that a large proportion of the analyses published by the British Medical Association referred to obscure nostrums having very little sale, and he wished to remove the misconceptions about that. Thirdly, definite allegations of inaccuracy had been made in regard to certain of the analyses, and he would comment upon those collectively and individually. With regard to the Pharmacopœia, Mr. Umney had said:

"In the vegetable preparations of the British Pharmacopœia there are thirty-four out of 235 which have definite chemical principles which can be determined, but that is a very small proportion."

Referring to that statement, Mr. Parry had said:

"Mr. Umney stated that of 235 organic preparations in the B.P., only forty-four can be ascertained by chemical analysis."

In a good deal of Mr. Umney's cross-examination it appeared to have been assumed that only forty-four out of 235 official drugs could be detected, and that the remaining 191 belonged to the class which he had referred to as beyond the reach of certain analysis. That is entirely misleading in three distinct ways. The Chairman had asked Mr. Umney if he agreed that "while it is impossible for any analyst to identify specifically various vegetable substances when mixed, it is always possible for the analyst to discover their active chemical and therapeutical ingredients." Mr. Umney, in reply, had spoken of the number in the B.P. "which have definite chemical principles which can be determined," the latter term being always used by chemists to mean determined quantitatively, which is a totally different thing from discovering them. The number forty-four was nowhere approaching the truth unless the word was used in that way. Mr. Parry had said:

"What I have said in reference to the B.P. applies with considerably greater force to the Codex and the Extra Pharmacopœia, and the proportion of valuable drugs which are not identifiable in mixtures is larger than in the case of the B.P. . . . As some further illustration of this point, I would note that in Volume I of 'Food and Drugs' I devoted a chapter to drugs containing alkaloids, etc., capable of approximate determination, and that I was only able to include twenty-five pure drugs of the B.P. in this chapter."

There, again, determination means quantitative determination. The fact is that the number of drugs which could be identified when in the form of their preparation has nothing to do with the number of those which could be quantitatively determined.

A PROTEST.

Mr. Lawson said it seemed to him that it is unusual in a Committee of the House of Commons to have a detailed reply by a witness who has already given evidence. That would lead to an interminable series of rebuttals—one witness answering another.

The raising of this point by the hon. member led to some conversation between members of the Committee.

Sir Philip Magnus, who had temporarily succeeded Sir Henry Norman in the chair, pointed out that Mr. Harrison was a very important witness, and many of his statements had apparently been refuted by Mr. Umney. He thought, in his own interests and in order that the Committee might be able to come to a conclusion on the matters brought before them, it would be desirable that Mr. Harrison should have an opportunity of repudiating in a general way statements which he considered to be incorrect.

The matter was further discussed, but eventually Mr. Harrison was allowed to proceed, though Mr. Lawson, at a later stage, again called attention to the possible consequences of this procedure. Sir Philip Magnus made it clear that if, after Mr. Harrison's evidence, Mr. Umney desired to be recalled the Committee would devote the necessary time for the purpose.

Continuing, Mr. Harrison said the second error had arisen from the actual numbers used. Mr. Umney had spoken of 235 preparations. There are only 160 separate and distinct vegetable drugs in the Pharmacopœia. According to his own counting, there are 301 galenic preparations of vegetable drugs. Whatever the principle on which Mr. Umney has made his selection of those it is clear that different preparations of one drug are counted as one article. For example, rhubarb is a drug not containing a definite active principle that can be determined quantitatively. Its preparations in the B.P. are extract, infusion, tincture, and compound pill, so that if those were all counted separately it appeared four times over, but what applied to its detection in one form applied to its detection in another. He then gave a classification of the vegetable drugs of the Pharmacopœia. The other respect in which Mr. Umney's evidence on that matter seemed to be misleading was his repeated implication that an analyst is limited to chemical tests, and is debarred from other methods such as the use of taste and smell which are available to himself.

Mr. Newton remarked that Mr. Harrison's evidence appeared to be directed towards showing the Committee that analysts are not so incapable as the Committee had been led to believe.

Witness assented. Proceeding, he said that he wished to pass now to the second point, which referred to the evidence of Mr. Waring and Mr. Barclay. Both those gentlemen declared their ignorance of a large proportion of the medicines mentioned in the British Medical Association's two books, as showing that they did not pass through the ordinary retail channels of trade. Mr. Umney had gone further, and had said that four-fifths of them are unknown to him. Both those books contained short references to a number of German nostrums. Sixty of those are named, thirty in each volume. These appeared to be of sufficient interest to be included, but it had never been suggested that they had any appreciable sale in this country, and they occupied very little of the two books, though numerically they are considerable. Then, as it has been pointed out before, there is a large business in secret medicines through the post direct from proprietor to consumer, and those, of course, do not come under the cognisance of wholesalers like Messrs. Barclay or retailers like Messrs. Boots. To take two instances: when he was asked to analyse the Tremol treatment he sent to Barclay's for the medicine, and, as he did not expect them to stock it, he gave the address and asked them to obtain it for him. After trying to do so, they replied that the makers would not supply through them, but only direct; but anybody reading a chapter on those medicines must regard it as probable at least that they had a large sale and greatly to the public detriment. Another remedy only supplied in the same way was "Dale's Treatment of Epilepsy." He had obtained much evidence of a large business being done in that preparation, and referred to the presence of a representative of the firm at a meeting of a section of the London Chamber of Commerce. A good many of the articles dealt with in the two volumes of "Secret Remedies" had probably chiefly a local sale, and those would not pass through the hands of Barclays or Boots. There must be thousands of nostrums having chiefly a local sale, and therefore the number of those, such as Karpusdoon or Harvey's Blood Pills, are included as samples. He wished to pass on now to the allegations of

ERROR IN THE ANALYSES.

It is, he thought, evident that the section of the Chamber of Commerce had taken great pains to bring forward everything possible against the two volumes of "Secret Remedies," and the fact that the number of instances in which error is definitely alleged is small might be regarded as a fairly good testimonial. He thought the Committee would bear him out when he said that when he was last before them he had been at some pains to admit, or rather to insist upon, the limitations of what an analyst could do, and if it could be proved that in a given thing he had failed to find some ingredient he did not feel that he had in consequence to defend his reputation. Mr. Umney, Mr. Parry, and Dr. Hake all claimed to have found ingredients which he had not done; but, waiving for a moment the question of whether those were present in the specimens which he had examined, it should be remembered that in almost every case those gentlemen had found them after they had been told of their presence by the makers. He felt it necessary to point out very emphatically that if one of those gentlemen found a certain ingredient in a sample of a medicine supplied by the proprietors or purchased in the ordinary way it did not follow that the same ingredient was in a sample which he had analysed from one to six years previously. Sir Joseph Beecham and Mr. South, of Steedmans, had admitted having altered their formule. Powell's Balsam and Winslow's Syrup also used to contain morphine, but do not now, and there are others not mentioned in those books. Apart from deliberate alterations there are variations due apparently to careless making up. Thus in the case of Seigel's Syrup he had found, in comparing the contents of two bottles bought at different times, that one was less bitter than the other and far more pungent,

pointing to variations, presumably unintentional, in the amounts of aloes and capsicum. The maker might put forward statements in good faith, which nevertheless must be received with scepticism. Mr. Lawson had said that the statement in "Secret Remedies" that the weight of the Daisy Powder is 6 grs. showed that the analyst must have examined a very old packet, as the dose had been 5 grs. for at least nine years, but the packet in question had been bought from Barclay's in April 1906, and it was hardly likely that they would have kept it in stock for over two years.

He would take the alleged inaccuracies seriatim: In regard to *Seigel's Syrup* he disputed Mr. Umney's evidence respecting the solid matters, and quoted Parry, as to the proportion of solid matter in the treacle which is an ingredient of the Syrup. He fully endorsed what Mr. Umney has said as to the impossibility of discovering each of eleven extracts in such a mixture unless perhaps by working on many gallons and spending many months on the work, which, of course, he did not do.

Mr. Glyn-Jones pressed the witness to state whether he would say that the ingredients which Mr. Umney and Mr. Parry had said they found in *Seigel's Syrup* were not present?

Witness said he wished to show that on the results stated by Mr. Umney there is absolutely no analytical evidence as to the amount of these extracts in *Seigel's Syrup*.

Mr. Glyn-Jones: Are you prepared to say, from your analysis of *Seigel's Syrup*, that the extracts which Mr. Umney and Mr. Parry say they found are not present in *Seigel's Syrup*?—Certainly not; but there is no evidence before the Committee to show that they may not have been present in very small quantities.

Sir P. Magnus: Then you admit that they may have been present?—Certainly.

Mr. Glyn-Jones: As in the case of Warburg's Tincture, if eleven vegetable extracts are present, the medicine may owe its value to the fact that they are there in combination?—I cannot deny it for a moment.

Continuing, Mr. Harrison said that, with regard to *Clarke's Blood Mixture*, Mr. Parry had not suggested that the results of analysis are wrong, but only that the ammonia is not there as aromatic spirit of ammonia, since the ammonia and the alcohol are admittedly there it seemed to him quite immaterial whether they are added together in the form of spirit of sal volatile or not. The amount of spirit of sal volatile present is stated to be 10 minims in 8 oz., which would equal about one-thirtieth of a grain of oil of nutmeg and one-twentieth grain of oil of lemon, and it would hardly be seriously suggested that these quantities in a bottle of sixteen doses are of any consequence at all.

Woodward's Gripe Water.—Mr. Harrison said he had a small quantity left of the supply of this, which he had tested, and after reading the evidence given he tested it again, and was prepared to admit that it contains a trace of pungent aromatic substance. The amount is so minute that the Government analysis reported it as a trace of capsicum resin, although there is a well-known test for distinguishing between them, showing presumably that the quantity is too small for that test to be applied. Mr. Umney called this trace of the unnamed substance "the most important ingredient," and much is said about its value by Mr. Woodward also. Yet Mr. South and Dr. Hake expressed the opinion that another infant's medicine is practically unaffected by the presence or absence of a trace of a far more potent drug, opium. That well illustrates what he had said in his former evidence that so long as a proprietor can keep a medicinal ingredient secret he can and does make very distinct claims for its medicinal virtues.

Mr. Glyn-Jones put a series of questions to the witness in regard to Woodward's Gripe Water. He pointed out that Mr. Harrison appeared to suggest that the Government analysts did not have a sufficient quantity of the medicine forwarded to them to enable them to determine with accuracy whether the statement made privately to the Committee as to the important ingredient which had been omitted in the formula in "Secret Remedies" was right or not.

Witness: I guard myself absolutely against standing up for the Government analysts. They can look after themselves. (Laughter.)

Continuing, Mr. Harrison remarked that Mr. Umney, in answer to a question, said this unnamed substance is the most important ingredient, and Mr. Woodward said a good deal about its importance and value. All he (Mr. Harrison) wished to point out is that it is such a minute trace that not only does he miss it in his first examination, but the Government analyst also missed it or called it something else—unless this ingredient is that something else.

Mr. Newton: I understand you discovered this unnamed substance at the second trial?—Yes.

We cannot be certain that the substance thus discovered is the substance that was communicated to us privately. (Laughter.) Mr. Harrison, you had no definite information from anybody showing you were on the right lines?—I am afraid I have. It was communicated to me rather freely, and I ought to consider my tongue tied in the matter.

Mr. Lawson: It was discovered for you rather than by you?—No, not at all. Something had been suggested to me, and finding I had a small sample I satisfied myself that there is probably a trace of the substance there.

That is rather a rough-and-ready method?—Quite.

And it is possible your taste may have deceived you as regards its importance?—Taste could not deceive me as to the quantity.

Continuing, Mr. Harrison said that as regarded *Beecham's Pills* Mr. Parry had stated that he detected in these an ingredient not named in the formula in "Secret Remedies" after its name had been given to him by Sir Joseph Beecham, and that he had found another ingredient without such disclosure. It does not appear that the presence of the latter is confirmed by the makers, and as for the tests suggested by Mr. Parry the appearance, smell, taste, and behaviour on putting into water, all these characters might be affected by differences in the non-medicinal ingredients, such as the excipient of the pills. With regard to *Pond's Arthriticus*, Mr. Parry had said that an important constituent is omitted in the formula given in "Secret Remedies," which is present to the extent of nearly 10 per cent., and that gentleman had suggested that the differences in the "Secret Remedies" formulae and those claimed by the manufacturer are due to recent alterations in the formulæ. He (Mr. Harrison) had been informed by a gentleman who, about the time he obtained a supply for analysis, was a director of the firm making this medicine that the principal ingredient was formerly potassium acetate, but that the formula was then altered by the addition of potassium bromide and salicylic acid. In the light of Mr. Parry's statement and of the mention of potassium acetate he had carefully gone again through his analytical results, and he affirmed, without any doubt, that the mixture he analysed did not contain any appreciable quantity of that substance, or of anything else but the ingredients given in "More Secret Remedies."

Some conversation took place as to the maker of this remedy, and Mr. Lawson said "Pond's is an old chemist's shop in Fleet Street."

That instance served, continued Mr. Harrison, as an example, and there is no reason for regarding it as an isolated case of what he had already said, that statements made by anyone in Mr. Parry's position about the compositions of samples of medicines submitted to him recently, though doubtless true and accurate in themselves, are no evidence as to the correctness or otherwise of his analyses made one or more years previously, and it illustrates the fact that Mr. Parry, in assuring the Committee that formulæ are not altered, was speaking of matters outside his cognisance. As to *Johnson's Syrup*, it is evident that Mr. Parry and he examined liquids of very different composition, for no one would suggest that he was incapable of determining sodium chloride correctly. He protested against Mr. Parry's remarks in that connection, for he had said:

"I assume in this case that Mr. Harrison found an acid reaction, and then that he found by a silver-nitrate test that there was so much chlorine present, and he jumped to the conclusion that it was free hydrochloric acid."

Of course, he did not dispute Mr. Parry's statement that he would have "jumped to a conclusion" in that way, but he (the witness) did not do so, and Mr. Parry's assumption

tion is quite gratuitous. He determined the amount of free acid, then the total amount of chloride, and also the amount of chloride present as sodium chloride. The difference between these agreed with the amount of free acid calculated as hydrochloric acid. He had been careful all along not to claim more accuracy than he was entitled to, and he voluntarily admitted that in getting rid of organic matter in order to determine the sodium chloride alone there is a possibility of his having lost some portion of the latter. Mr. Parry had also said that he had verified that Mr. Harrison had "jumped to the conclusion," because there is an alkaloid present in Marza wine which is labelled Coca Wine, that it must have been cocaine. He had jumped to no such conclusion. He would quote the exact words of his report to the Committee:

"The alkaloid is bitter and caused numbing when applied to the tongue. . . . Its solution showed the fluorescence characteristic of quinine or quinidine."

That is a plain record of observed fact, and cocaine is not even mentioned. If that is not intentional misrepresentation on Mr. Parry's part it is at least culpable carelessness. Dr. Hake stated, in his evidence with regard to *Steedman's Powders*, that these contained an ingredient not named in witness's analysis, and that before he detected this ingredient himself he had been told of its presence by the proprietors. Dr. Hake had said this ingredient contained a minute proportion of an alkaloid. In "Secret Remedies" the analysis states that a minute amount of an alkaloid is present, so that an omission appears to be that the drug from which it is derived is not named. In view of the fact that these powders have been sent by the Committee to the Government analyst, he had not examined them further himself, but for certain reasons he thought it likely that the drug in question is powdered ipecacuanha. It would not be difficult to verify the presence of this by microscopical examination if one were told that it was present. But without a lead of this kind it would not be readily detected in the presence of the large proportions of starch and calomel. As the powders in one packet were found by him to vary in weight from 1.9 to 4.5 grains, pointing to extreme carelessness in putting up, it is not unreasonable to suppose that there may have been some carelessness in mixing, and that the powders examined by him may have contained even less of that ingredient than the quantity intended to be present.

MORE VARIATIONS.

Questioned by Mr. Lynch and the Chairman as to how far analysts analysing similar preparations are likely to agree, he said that in regard to inorganic substances they would certainly agree to the first decimal place. If they did not it would be due to differences in the preparation.

Mr. Lynch called witness's attention to the fact that in "Secret Remedies" quantities are given to the second place of decimals. "This would be possible," replied witness, "in the case of inorganic substances." Mr. Lynch then went on to say that in an analysis that had been checked by the Government analyst the difference was in units. Witness's answer was that the composition must have been different. In regard to sugar in urine, witness said this could be detected to the first place of decimals. Mr. Lynch's comment was that the discrepancies are something enormous between the Government's and Mr. Harrison's analyses.

Dr. Chapple, Mr. Cawley, and Mr. Lawson asked a few questions.

Mr. Newton asked, regarding the presence of a representative of "Dale's Treatment for Epilepsy" at a meeting of the London Chamber of Commerce, and witness quoted from *THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST* the name of "J. Gilbert Dale" as present at a meeting in 1906.

EVENING MEETING RECALLED.

Mr. Glyn-Jones, who next examined witness, recalled the last evening meeting of the Pharmaceutical Society. Dr. Power read papers on *Euphorbia pilulifera* and *Phaseolus multiflorus*. It was brought out that Dr. Power is a great authority on the examination of drugs; where medicinal properties are alleged for a drug he examines

the substance to find out to what the medicinal action can be attributed. In the case of *Euphorbia pilulifera*, which has a reputation for asthma, although 44 lb. of the drug was examined about one dram of essential oil was found, which in the discussion was suggested by Mr. Harrison to be the only substance to which medicinal action could be attributed. In the discussion on *Phaseolus multiflorus*, Mr. Harrison remarked that it was a relief to analysts of less repute than Dr. Power to find the expression "amorphous glucosidic material" employed. If, said Mr. Glyn-Jones, that was a source of satisfaction to you, does it not indicate the enormous difficulties involved in analysing vegetable substances? Mr. Glyn-Jones then took rhubarb as another example, and witness said that it is detected by the presence of emodin. He was not aware that attempts had been made to obtain the effects of rhubarb by combining all the ingredients that have been discovered in it. Mr. Harrison was asked further regarding the statement in the preface of "Secret Remedies" that the remedies analysed had been selected as being some of the "most widely advertised and largely sold," and that the books contained representatives of "the best and the worst" proprietary medicines.

Do you not think it possible that by combining the best and the worst you were besmirching the best by associating them with the worst?

"I think that is quite possible," Mr. Harrison replied, "but I do not think that was intended by the British Medical Association."

Mr. Glyn-Jones: Is there anything in the books which commends the best?—Certainly not.

Dr. Cox told us that it is part of the campaign of the British Medical Association against patent medicines. Was it as part of that campaign that you were asked to do that work?—I think it was hardly that. I think it started with the idea of publishing the information for the benefit of the medical profession, but as the work went on the results were so startling that it was decided to develop the work more fully, and it was in that way that we entered upon the campaign.

And in furtherance of that campaign more of the worse class of article was selected, and less of the best?—That is not the case. The selection of the articles rested with me, and that was not my motive. Mr. Harrison went on to explain that he had endeavoured to make the selection representative—an approximate number in each class of remedies. It was true that he had analysed articles about the sale of which he knew nothing, but if he found they were in Messrs. Barclay's list, and if extravagant claims were made for them, he took it that there was a demand for them.

AFTER LUNCHEON.

Only the Chairman and Mr. Glyn-Jones were present when the sitting was resumed, but other members came in before Mr. Glyn-Jones got very far in his resumed cross-examination. Replying to further questions, Mr. Harrison said that there may or may not be vegetable ingredients in Doan's Pills and Scigel's Syrup that he had not discovered in his analysis, but that had been revealed to and subsequently discovered by Mr. Parry and Mr. Umney. Johnson's Syrup may have contained lemon-juice and pure sugar. He would be very surprised to know that witnesses had handed in actual testimonials from medical men of proprietaries he had "pilloried"—making a distinction of the word "pilloried"—in "Secret Remedies." In reply to the Chairman, Mr. Harrison maintained (in spite of all the evidence the Committee had heard) the substantial accuracy of his analyses.

EVIDENCE BY THE PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY.

Mr. C. B. Allen (President of the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain) was then called, and at the request of the Chairman he omitted the historical part of the statement which he had prepared, and spoke briefly of the Society's administrative duties. He mentioned that the number of cases in 1908 to 1912 in which proceedings were taken under the Pharmacy Acts, and called the attention of the Committee to Section 16 of the Pharmacy Act, 1868, which specifically exempts from the Act the "making or dealing in patent medicines"—i.e., "medicines being the subject of Letters Patent in force" (Pharmaceutical Society v. Fox). Judged from that standpoint, there are very few patent medicines containing poisons now on the market. In cases where it is apparent that application for a patent had relation to a desire to take a medicinal preparation out of the operation of the Pharmacy Acts my Council has successfully proceeded for the revocation of the patent. Wilkinson's Cancer Cure was mentioned as an example.

Mr. Allen then told the Committee what the Poisons Schedule is and how it is added to, getting in all the Society's futile efforts with the Privy Council in 1882, 1886, 1893, 1899, 1900, 1901, 1902, and 1905. Then he spoke about the introduction of Pharmacy Bills by the Society in 1906-1908, and the Enactment of 1908 (the Poisons and Pharmacy Act). Summing up the whole matter in five statements of fact familiar to pharmacists, and concluding with the observation that there is no reason why in future the Pharmaceutical and the Government experts should not be brought into touch whenever questions as to additions to the Poisons Schedule arise, and if this could be effected there would be an end to unnecessary delays, and a great gain to public safety would result.

The Chairman and the Committee generally were particularly interested in the relations between the Society and the Privy Council. Sir Henry Norman wanted to know who or what the Privy Council was, and with whom the Council conducted its negotiations regarding the scheduling of poisons. Mr. Allen said the Society's expert met Dr. Dobbie, the Government analyst, in conference, but the Society never met any member of the Privy Council. Mr. Lawson was anxious to know if they spent any time with the Lord President, but Mr. Allen said everything was done through Sir Almeric FitzRoy. Mr. Newton wanted to know what "form of words" the Society and the Council were unable to agree about as regards veronal. This was explained by Mr. Allen, helped out by judicious questions from Mr. Glyn-Jones. He told the Committee that the Society strongly object to placing anything with a trade-name on the Schedule. The name of the actual poison should be on the labels of proprietary articles, rather than the trade-name of the article.

In answer to the Chairman, Mr. Allen described the procedure in the case of a sale of veronal. With regard to records of cases of death from poisons, the Chairman said the Committee would be greatly obliged if the Council would give them access to any official records they possess. Mr. Allen said he knew of no actual records of carbolic-acid poisonings beyond reports of inquests. Mr. Lawson hoped the Committee would approach the Privy Council to find out whether they had any official records of deaths from poisons; and, if not, why not?

Replying to the Chairman, Mr. Allen agreed that the action of the Privy Council in the scheduling of poisons had always been slow and very inefficient. There ought to be a speedier way. The Privy Council appeared to be more anxious to protect commercial interests involved than to consider the safety of the public.

Answering Mr. Glyn-Jones, witness thought the suggestion made that the privileges extended to chemists and medical men under the Medicine Stamp Acts should be extended to anyone is dangerous.

The Chairman asked whose business it was to find out all about the unknown poison in a proprietary? Mr. Allen replied, "Nobody's business."

Dr. Chapple wanted to know what objectionable advertisements Mr. Allen would suppress? Witness instanced cures for consumption and cancer and rupture-cure to be taken internally. Some proprietary medicines might well be left alone, others are harmful and should be suppressed. Even with the best class of proprietary, disclosure of the formula on the label would certainly do harm. Dr. Chapple was most anxious to know how Mr. Allen would protect the public, and he caused much laughter by saying the public do not want to be protected. Dr. Chapple instanced how the public are protected from their ignorance when buying brass rings in place of gold. Mr. Allen quaintly replied that it was doubtful if they were protected even then, as the rings came very near brass sometimes.

With regard to the attitude of chemists towards proprietary medicines, most of them keep the best-known in stock, and sell them because they have to. He believed the Insurance Act would lessen the sale of proprietaries considerably. Finally, in reply to the Chairman, Mr. Allen said doctors prescribe proprietary medicines advertised in the lay Press very largely. He instanced Seigel's Syrup. Under the Insurance Act doctors are not debarred from prescribing proprietary medicines, and he had seen a mysterious unsigned circular that had been issued broadcast informing doctors that there is no reason why they should not prescribe proprietary medicines to Insurance patients as heretofore.

This concluded the day's proceedings.

CASEIN.—It is estimated that about 300 tons of casein were produced in India in 1912. The industry is still in its infancy, but it is believed that expansion will attend the adoption of improved methods, appliances, and practice.

WESTMINSTER WISDOM.

The Week in Parliament.

DAYLIGHT SAVING AND CALENDAR REFORM.

Mr. Robert Pearce, M.P., has reintroduced his Bills to promote the earlier use of daylight in certain months and to reform the calendar, fix Easter and other and more bank holidays, and for other purposes in relation thereto.

BASIS WINES.

In the House of Commons on April 22 Mr. Beck asked the Chancellor of the Exchequer, in view of the recent decision in the case of the Wine and Spirit Trades Association v. Piper, Ltd., whether he would consider the advisability of appointing a small expert committee to consider the whole question of basis wines, both as regards their unfair competition with genuine wines and the loss to the Revenue caused by the sale, duty free, of so-called British wines. The Chancellor replied: I am making inquiries in this matter, and will communicate with my hon. friend in due course.

THE PARCEL-POST.

The Postmaster-General has informed Mr. J. P. Farrell, M.P., that the maximum weight which auxiliary postmen in rural districts may be required to carry on foot has been 35 lb. for many years. A medical inquiry was made into the question in 1909 and no change was recommended. It is not the practice to employ boys on such duties. In deciding the question whether it is desirable to allow the use of a bicycle in any particular case, it is necessary to take into account, among other things, the nature of the round and the condition of the roads. [The honourable member had suggested that boys acting as auxiliary rural postmen are required to carry parcels up to 50 lb.]

THE SHOPS ACT.

In the House of Commons on Monday, April 21, Mr. Boyton asked the Home Secretary whether he is aware that Plymouth has not yet appointed an inspector under the Shops Act, and that traders are following their own desires, while in Nottingham the Act is strictly enforced, one trader having already paid three fines of 10*l.* each; and whether he proposes to take any action in the matter.—Mr. McKenna replied that the matter has been receiving the attention of his department, and he was glad to be able to say that the Town Council of Plymouth have now stated that they will take immediate steps to comply with the statutory duty placed upon them by Section 13 of the Act.

Lord Charles Beresford asked the Home Secretary on Wednesday whether he is aware that when he signed the closing order for medicine for the borough of Portsmouth 324 chemists signed a petition asking him to withhold his signature, and only sixty-one chemists were in favour of the closing order; and whether he would state exactly what is meant by the words "chemist shop," in order that chemists may be quite clear as to their position and so avoid the prosecutions which occur as matters stand at present.—Mr. McKenna replied: I received no such petition, but after the order was confirmed a local Association sent me a letter saying they had the signatures of 324 persons who were opposed to the order. Before the confirmation of the order the same Association had sent me a petition against the order signed by fifty persons, but on a consideration of the report, which was submitted to me by the Town Council as to the manner in which the register of shops had been prepared, I was satisfied that great care had been taken to include all persons who were entitled to vote on the order, and that the persons represented by the Association carried on the business to a small extent only, and were not entitled under the provisions of the Act to be placed on the register. Of those who carried on the sale of medicines as their principal business, or as a substantial part of their business, a large majority were in favour of the order. As regards the last part of the question the order applies generally to the sale of medicines and medical and surgical appliances, and does not specifically mention chemists' shops.

WINTER SESSION.

Reporters, and Secretaries of Associations whose meetings are not open to reporters, are requested to send their reports to the Editor not later than the Wednesday following the meeting.

Cumberland and Westmorland.—Chemists from Carlisle, Wigton, Maryport, Workington, Whitehaven, Cockermouth, Keswick, Penrith, and Appleby attended the annual meeting of the Cumberland and Westmorland Chemists' Association held at Carlisle on April 17. Mr. F. B. Bennett presided, and the Secretary (Mr. Townley) read the report and balance-sheet, the latter showing a deficiency of 3*l.* 8*s.* Mr. Bennett was elected President, Mr. Edmondson (Penrith) Treasurer, and Mr. Townley was re-elected Secretary. A committee representative of the two counties was also elected. The following were appointed as the local Pharmaceutical Committee to act with Medical and Cumberland County Committees under the National Insurance Act: Mr. F. B. Bennett, Mr. Joseph Cowper, Mr. D. W. McVitie, Mr. Thos. Ridley, and Mr. Townley; for Westmorland: Mr. A. C. Bateson, Mr. G. M. Birkett, Mr. R. H. Barker, and Mr. G. D. Crozier. Mr. Ridley (Carlisle) and Mr. Cowper (Penrith) were appointed delegates to the meeting at Bloomsbury Square on May 7. Mr. J. Uglov Woolcock gave an interesting address on Insurance work. Afterwards there was a free discussion on the knotty points that had arisen during the first three months the Act had been in force, and Mr. Woolcock cleared up many difficulties. Twenty-one of the members remained to dine together at the Silver Grill, where the meeting was held. Several toasts were honoured. The Secretary reported that there are in Cumberland 130 chemists on the Register, fifty members of the Pharmaceutical Society, sixty-six shops, four branch shops, five drug-stores with qualified and one with unqualified managers, and twenty-seven agricultural and horticultural licences have been granted. In Westmorland there are thirty-one chemists on the Register, sixteen of them being members of the Society, seventeen shops, one branch, one drug-store with qualified and two drug-stores with unqualified managers, and six agricultural and horticultural poison-licences have been granted.

Durham.—A meeting of county chemists was held at the Rose and Crown Hotel, Durham, on April 16. Mr. John Harrison (Sunderland) presiding. Mr. F. Pilkington Sargeant (Leeds) and Mr. W. J. Uglov Woolcock spoke on behalf of the Pharmaceutical Society's Organisation Committee and the Pharmaceutical Standing Committee on Insurance, to whom a vote of thanks was accorded on the motion of Mr. W. Forster, seconded by Mr. R. S. Backhouse. Votes of thanks to the Chairman and speakers, moved by Mr. Williamson and seconded by Mr. F. Walton, terminated a pleasant and instructive meeting.

Guildford.—A meeting of the Guildford Pharmacists' Association was held at the Angel Hotel on April 19. The sum of 3*l.* was voted to the Pharmaceutical Standing Committee on Insurance. Messrs. Wilson, Wiles, Tavener, and J. H. Mather were appointed as delegates to the meeting of local Associations' representatives in London on May 7.

Huddersfield.—The concluding meeting of the Chemists' Association was held on Tuesday evening, April 22, when Mr. J. B. Wood presided over a large attendance. He and the Hon. Secretary (Mr. J. Cooper) were empowered to call a special meeting or meetings during the recess in the event of business requiring urgent attention. A sub-committee was appointed to organise a picnic in July. The question of supplying proprietary mixtures under the Insurance Act was discussed, and it was decided not to encourage the stocking of such mixtures, but to supply them in the event of their being called for. Mr. R. C. Walshav reported that Insurance dispensing is working well in the district, and no complaint had been made against chemists. The general opinion was expressed that May 7 is a most inconvenient date for the Pharmaceutical Society's conference in London, and the invitation for delegates was passed over.

Lincoln (Lindsey).—An organisation tour in connection with the newly formed Lincoln (Lindsey) County Pharmacists' Association was carried out on April 18. Mr. J. Forrester (of Cleethorpes), a member of the Lincoln County Council, took in his motor-car the following delegates: Mr. Humphrey, member of the Lindsey Pharmaceutical Committee; Mr. Sneath, Vice-President of the Grimsby Pharmacists' Association; Mr. C. H. Ashton, Secretary *pro tem.* Lindsey County Association. The towns visited were Caistor, Market Rasen, and Brigg, with the villages *en route*, the tour finishing at Lincoln, where in the course of three hours most of the chemists were visited. Altogether

about sixteen new members for the county Association were obtained, and a large number of subscribers to the Pharmaceutical Standing Committee's fund.

Liverpool.—A meeting of the Liverpool Chemists' Association was held on April 16 in the Pharmacy Laboratory of the University, the President (Mr. H. Humphreys Jones) in the chair. The meeting was attended by forty-eight members, Miss G. M. Williams and Messrs. J. H. Jones and E. G. Hodges were elected members of the Association. Mr. Prosper H. Marsden then gave demonstrations of some simple dispensing devices and manipulations, as follows:

1. The method of dry sterilisation of ampoules to contain solutions and suspensions for hypodermic and intramuscular use.
2. The dilution of tuberculins, and filling into ampoules in small numbers by means of a burette, and in large quantities by means of a vacuum apparatus; the sterilisation of all the implements used in these processes.
3. Preparation of sterile suspension of salvarsan for intramuscular use, and filling into sterile glass ampoules. (By Mr. Bishop Whalley.)
4. Machine-filling of collapsible tubes of tooth-paste. (By Mr. Frank Ward.)
5. The Eureka tablet-machine, Stokes' automatic water-still, and Thompson & Capper's Universal press for manufacturing suppositories. (By Mr. Lionel Cohen.)
6. A simple emulsifier (Maw's) making pint quantities of lin. terebinth., and a mechanical stirrer, both driven by electric motors.
7. A still, made entirely of glass, for the production of twice-distilled water for use in making solutions of salvarsan for intravenous medication.

Mr. Marsden made a few introductory remarks on the subject of bacteriology for pharmacists, and read a short paper by Mr. Bishop Whalley and himself upon the preparation of salvarsan suspension as used in the Liverpool Royal Infirmary. The Museum of Materia Medica of the University was also open to inspection. On the motion of Mr. Harold Lomax, seconded by Mr. J. G. Wallbridge and supported by Mr. John H. Robinson, a vote of thanks was given to Mr. Marsden and the staff of the Dispensary of the Royal Infirmary and to Mr. Lionel Cohen for the way they had entertained the members.

London.—The South Eastern of London Pharmacists' Association has appointed Mr. W. T. Tucker its Canvassing Secretary, and Messrs. Brooks, Everett, Fairweather, Milner, Sayers, Liddle, and Wing as delegates to the meeting of the Pharmaceutical Society is holding in London in the Chemists' Exhibition week.

Nottingham.—At the meeting of the Nottingham Pharmaceutical Association held on April 16 Mr. T. F. Harvey gave a lecture on *Nottingham in the Olden Times*. The earliest trace of man in Nottinghamshire was found at Creswell Craggs, where crude stone implements were found side by side with bones of animals which have been extinct for ages in these islands. The Roman occupation and the Norman Conquest and their effects were referred to, and the building of Nottingham Castle, where Parliament formerly sat. Scrooby, the home of the Pilgrim Fathers, attracts a large number of visitors from the United States.

Royal Institution.—The Friday evening discourse on April 18 was by Dr. T. M. Lowry on *The Applications of Polarised Light*. It was an interesting account of the discovery and uses to which polarised light is put. Many experiments were shown, and the lecturer had the advantage of being able to employ the splendid polarisers of Iceland spar which are among the cherished possessions of the Royal Institution. In regard to the light employed, progress has been made from the Argand gas-burner employed by Faraday and the sodium lamp of Spottiswoode, the source of illumination now preferred being the mercury arc, from the spectrum of which can be obtained a pure violet light of greater brilliancy than from any other source. The various forms of mercury arc were described, a vertical silica lamp being most suited for polarimetry, owing to the thread shape of the arc, due to what is known as the "pinching effect." A good many experiments were made, those showing colour effects, owing to the interposition of mica plates of varying thickness, being particularly appreciated. The lecturer then explained his work on mutarotation, which has occupied him during the last fifteen years. This refers to the alteration of rotation which takes place when such substances as glucose and malt-sugar are kept in solution.

Thames Valley.—Mr. F. Harvey presided at the annual meeting of the Pharmacists' Association held on April 23. The Secretary (Mr. Walter Peake) presented the annual report, which was satisfactory. The financial statement of the Treasurer (Mr. Alfred Higgs, J.P.) was presented by Mr.

Harvey. It showed a balance in hand of 15*l.* 3*s.* 11*d.* Five guineas was voted to the Pharmaceutical Standing Committee on Insurance. The reports were adopted. The members of the committee were re-elected, with the exception of Mr. T. Evans (East Putney), who had resigned. Mr. W. V. Westlake (Ashford) was elected in his place. A resolution of sympathy with Mr. Higgs was passed. Messrs. Tims, Harvey, Higgs, Palmer, Peake, and Bunker were appointed delegates to the conference in London on May 7. They were asked to bring before the meeting the subject of pharmaceutical education, and the provision of qualified dispensers. Five new members were elected. A vote of thanks to the officers brought the meeting to a close.

Wharfedale.—Mr. G. W. Worfolk presided on Monday evening, April 21, at a meeting of pharmacists held at Secker's Restaurant, Otley, on Tuesday, April 22. There were also present Messrs. Mainprize, Hammond, Fearnley (Otley), Lee (Menston), Usher (Guiselley), Hardman (Yeadon), Beveridge and Hewitt (Ilkley). The Chairman explained the object of the meeting, and after some discussion it was unanimously decided to form the Wharfedale Pharmacists' Association, all registered pharmacists within the Wharfedale Union to be eligible for membership, and Councillor Mainprize and Mr. Fearnley (Otley) were elected President and Secretary respectively. The Association then elected Messrs. Mainprize and Fearnley representatives on the Wharfedale district Insurance Committee. Several other matters of interest were discussed.

Women Pharmacists.—A meeting of the Association of Women Pharmacists was held on April 17 at Dr. Williams's Library, Gordon Square, London, W.C., to hear a paper by Mr. Horace Finnemore on "The Investigation of Medicinal Plants in Relation to the Progress of Medicine." Mr. Finnemore submitted that the progress of medicine synchronised with the advance in the study of medicinal plants and their active principles. The origin of the use in medicine of Calabar bean and coca was traced. Cocaine was first isolated in 1860, and became commonly used as a local anæsthetic in 1884. The alkaloid possesses the disadvantage of being decomposed by alkalies and of being highly toxic, and several artificial alkaloids were produced, of which eucaine, stovaine, and novocaine have come into general use. It is noticed that these substances all possess a characteristic group of atoms, to which the desired effect would seem to be due, and this fact serves as a valuable guide to the chemist. The speaker indicated the lines along which this work is likely to go in the future, and instanced digitalis as a plant on which labour might be spent, its active principle, digitoxin, possessing a medicinal dose too near its lethal dose. Mr. Finnemore was thanked for his paper.

FESTIVITIES.

Smoking-concert.

THE annual smoking-concert of the Hull Pharmacists' Association was held on April 17 at the Grosvenor Hotel, and was greatly enjoyed by a large number of members and friends. The President of the Hull Association (Mr. T. Smith) was in the chair. Mr. R. F. Jones again acted as *entrepreneur*, and an excellent programme was rendered.

London Chemists' Golfing Society.

THE fourth annual dinner of the members of this Society was held at the Trocadero Restaurant, London, on Thursday evening, April 17, the Captain (Mr. A. Barritt, chemist and dentist, Charing Cross Road) presiding, and the Vice-Chairmen being Mr. C. T. Allen, Mr. A. Boyes, and Mr. M. W. Carmichael. Among those present were Messrs. C. H. J. Tanner, C. Presant, T. Heighington, J. W. Royle, E. W. Hill, E. J. Dinwiddie, A. B. V. Taffs, A. Harries, H. W. Bartlett, S. Briggs, A. Roe, G. E. Phillips, W. Weston, J. B. Wigginton, C. A. MacDonald, R. Shaw, G. Beaton, C. R. Bate, S. T. Saunders, J. Roper, V. M. Cooper, J. F. S. King, G. Duncan Bowie, C. Brooks, L. J. Read, B. Fielding, P. Trick, W. B. Trick, and J. C. Gambles. After dinner and the toast of "The King," "Prosperity to the L.C.G.S." was proposed by Mr. Tanner (Crown Perfumery Co.), who, in the course of his remarks, asked why the chemists of London should not have a golf course of their own. He considered that manufacturers and wholesalers might come forward in support of such a movement, and by taking founders' shares to the value of, say, 10*l.* each in a limited company they could secure somewhere in suburban London 200 or 300 acres of ground for the exclusive use of chemists and those connected with the business. Mr. Tanner also spoke of the successful season that the club had had, and stated that the Thomson Cup had been won by Mr. Gordon Beaton, the President's Cup by Mr. S. T. Saunders, the Sangers Cup by the Captain, the Vincent

Wood Prize by Mr. G. F. Deeth, who also won the gold medal, while the prize to those with handicaps of 18 and over was won by Mr. J. Hepburn. The Captain's Prize has not yet been decided. The monthly medals have been won by Messrs. G. F. Deeth, Scott (2), S. Briggs, W. B. Trick, W. Gray, G. Beaton, Main, Barritt, Derrett (2), and J. Jones. The toast was acknowledged by the Captain in a pithy little speech on Lord Justice Kennedy's ideal lines. Mr. Barritt summed up his observations on the objects of the Society with the remark that a "heterogeneous mass has been made homogeneous through that excellent excipient—golf." The toast of

"The Visitors" was proposed by Mr. Boyes, and Mr. W. Weston (R. J. Reuter's) responded. After this the Captain presented Mr. Beaton and Mr. Saunders with their cups, and Mr. Presant (Sangers) presented the Captain with the handsome and massive silver cup that his firm had presented to the Society. The toast of "The Chairman" was proposed by Mr. W. B. Trick, and Mr. Barritt acknowledged. In the course of the evening a programme of music was presented, and of this it need only be said that the worst was the best—to wit, a rendering of "Excelsior" by Mr. Charles Henry and Mr. Noel Pherns, who sang the song as an unrehearsed duet in a manner that almost convinced the company that the duettists had never seen or tried it before.



THE NURSING AND MIDWIFERY EXHIBITION at the Royal Horticultural Hall, Westminster, London, S.W., is a striking success this year. The endeavour to confine exhibits to articles directly pertaining to nursing has resulted in record attendances, and exhibitors report splendid business. Infants' and nutrient foods are an especially noteworthy feature. Glaxo, Neave's Food, Milo, Savory & Moore's foods forming the subject of fine displays. A noteworthy feature is that Allen & Hanburys, Ltd., provide each nurse with a neat imitation leather-covered case containing eight different samples of their diet, foods, rusks, etc., which form the main features in their exhibit. Burroughs Wellcome & Co. are demonstrating at their striking stand in pale blue the simplicity of making Kepler humanised milk. E. T. Pearson & Co., Ltd., are telling how lactogol makes breast-feeding of infants possible. A. Wulffing & Co. present albulactin as the final solution of the problem of the artificial feeding of infants. Alongside is Sanatogen, backed with a large coloured picture of the Temple of Hygeia. Horlick's Malted Milk, Virol, Bovril, and Oxo are distributed at sampling stands. Cadbury Bros. confine their show to Bournville cocoa and chocolate. Brand & Co., Ltd., have a full range of their products, while Keen, Robinson & Co., Ltd., display their "patent" barley and "patent" groats. Quaker Oats, Ltd., present a novelty in "puffed" rice. Fairchild Bros. & Foster are paying special attention to laibose, their wheat nutrient, but panopepton and peptogenic milk powder are also much in evidence. Medicated wines are represented by Coleman & Co. (Wincarnis) and Stephen Smith & Co. (Carvino and Hall's Wine). Sanitary specialities are well represented by Robinson & Sons, Ltd., Southall Bros. & Barclay, Ltd., and Hartmann's. John Bell & Croydon, Ltd., have a display of sterilised dressings. "Ellanbee" nerve foods and preparations, with neat get-up, are shown by Lewis & Burrows, Ltd. J. G. Ingram & Son utilise the greater part of their stand to show the advantages of their Agrippa band teat and of their Sterilendum and Utilema enemas. Parke, Davis & Co. descend mainly on the supreme germicidal power of Euthymol tooth-paste and other preparations. Eucryl, Ltd., use their conspicuous stand mainly to propagato the use of their Eau-de-Cologne tooth-paste. "Milk of Magnesia" as the best antacid is the message of the Charles H. Phillips Chemical Co. At the stand of the Ficolax Co. dainty samples are provided, so that the claim of Ficolax as a delightful remedy for constipation can be tested. Other exhibits of interest to chemists are by the Jelloid Co. (iron "jelloids"), "Hunyadi Janos" water, and the Saccharin Corporation, Ltd. The last-named display dry diamalt in tempting fashion, as well as pergenol dentifrice tablets and trivalin (Overlach), a new anodyne containing the valerianates of morphine, caffeine, and cocaine. It is stated to be free from soporific effect.

PERSONALITIES.

Notes for this section sent to the Editor should be authenticated, and must not be in the nature of advertisements.

MR. T. KNIGHT, chemist and druggist, of Crowthorne, Berks, has been appointed an overseer of the poor.

MR. HENRY D. KELF, Ph.C., Bromley, Kent, was appointed J.W. of the Selwyn Lodge 1901, at Restaurant Frascati, London, W., on April 17.

MR. L. B. ROWLAND, chemist and druggist, Wrexham, has been appointed a member of the Joint Committee controlling Higher Education in the Wrexham district.

MR. W. HUTCHESON, chemist and druggist, 10 Prospect Hill, Douglas, has been elected to represent the chemists on the Council of the Isle of Man Chamber of Commerce.

MR. F. W. BIGGS was elected Vice-Chairman of the Stourbridge Board of Guardians on April 18. Mr. Biggs has been a member of the Board for nineteen years.

THE SURNAME of Lieut.-Colonel Walter T. Grice, V.D., F.C.S., principal of Messrs. Smith, Stanistreet & Co., Calcutta, was incorrectly rendered in "India and the East" last week.

AT THE EASTER VESTRY the Rector of St. Matthew's Church, Crumpsall, nominated Mr. W. Turver as his warden for the forthcoming year. Mr. Turver is manager for Boots, Ltd., at Cheetham Hill, Manchester.

MR. W. E. GOFF, Ph.C., has been elected Chairman of the Dartford Urban District Council. He thus becomes *ex officio* a Justice of the Peace. Mr. Goff has been appointed representative of the Council on the Kent Main Sewerage Board and on the local joint hospital committee.

DR. WM. COLLINGRIDGE, M.A., LL.M., was entertained to luncheon at the Guildhall, London, E.C., on April 22, by members of the Sanitary Committee of the Corporation. The Lord Mayor presented an illuminated address voted to Dr. Collingridge by the Court of Common Council in appreciation of his long and valuable services as medical officer to the Port of London, and subsequently for twelve years as medical officer of health for the City of London.

MR. G. T. W. NEWSHOLME is the subject of an appreciative article in the "Sheffield Weekly News" of April 19. His work in connection with the young and aged poor is specially referred to. Mr. Newsholme was elected to the Sheffield Board of Guardians in 1892, and is now its Chairman, having occupied the same position on several occasions in the past. It is interesting to note that the column in the "News" following the appreciation is "Music and Musicians," by Mr. Herbert Antcliffe, the dispenser for the Board.

MR. SAMUEL W. FAIRCHILD, of New York, was in London for a few days at the beginning of this week, having spent the previous fortnight in Paris. He left on Wednesday morning on his return to New York. In conversation with him Mr. Fairchild informed us that trade in the United States is excellent at present, and the prospects are good, for fine crops of cotton, corn, and wheat are assured. As to the revision of the tariff, he says that the Bill will go through the House of Representatives with little change, but what the Senate will do nobody knows.

MR. ALFRED HIGGS, J.P., of Kingston-on-Thames, met with a serious accident last Sunday evening when returning home from a visit to Bognor, where he has a seaside cottage. While waiting for a train at Barnham Junction, in leaning forward to see if the train was signalled, he overbalanced and fell heavily on to the metals. He was quickly lifted on to the platform and conveyed to the waiting-room. He was sent on to Clapham Junction, where he was met by his son, Mr. Leonard Higgs, and taken home, where the doctors found that no bones were broken, but his right side was extensively bruised, and a muscle under the ribs was ruptured. He has suffered considerable pain, but is on a fair way to recovery.

TWO NEW DIRECTORS have been added to the Board of Management of Messrs. May, Roberts & Co., Ltd., Clerkenwell Road, London, E.C. These are Mr. E. T. Bell, who is head of the packed goods department, and



MR. E. T. BELL.



MR. O. G. LOYNES.

Mr. O. G. Loynes, who is in charge of the office administration. Mr. Bell, who recently joined the company, has an inventive faculty, and has already instituted several successful labour-saving devices. Mr. Loynes has been a member of the staff for many years, and has gained his promotion through merit.

MR. FREDERIC WILLIAM BATES, the new President of the Manchester Pharmaceutical Association, is a native of March, in Cambridgeshire. He was apprenticed at Crowle, in Lincolnshire, afterwards taking a situation at Norwich, and was also for some years at Kingsford & Co., Piccadilly, London, W. He passed the Minor examination in October 1878; and five years later purchased a chemist's business at Brook's Bar, Manchester, which he still carries on, in association with that exceptionally popular speciality, "Frizetta," and other toilet preparations of world-wide repute. He has been a member of the Manchester Pharmaceutical Association for many years, and last year was made Vice-President of it as well as Chairman of its Insurance Committee. Mr. Bates takes much interest in local affairs, and has been a member of the Stretford (Lancs) Urban District Council for eighteen years, and Chairman of it from 1900 to 1902, as well as Chairman of the Education Committee since 1902. Educational work is one of the greatest pleasures of his life, and he is one of the representatives of Urban Districts on the Association of Education Committees of England and Wales. It may also be noted that Mr. Bates has a busy postal and telegraph office attached to his pharmacy.



MR. F. W. BATES.

MEXICAN QUICKSILVER.—For the five years 1906-1910 the production of quicksilver in Mexico reached 200 tons annually. During 1911 the output fell to 95 tons, and in 1912 it was under 120 tons.

PORTSMOUTH PHARMACISTS' ASSOCIATION.—A meeting was held on Wednesday evening, April 23, Mr. Bell presiding. Five guineas was voted to the Pharmaceutical Standing Committee on Insurance and two guineas to the Benevolent Fund. The Association decided to federate with the Hants County Association, and to pay a capitation-fee of sixpence per member. The President (Mr. Bell) and Secretary (Mr. Sparrow) were elected delegates to the County Association. Subjects for discussion at the conference in London on May 7 received some attention, and Messrs. Upson and Rhodes were appointed to represent the views of the members. Mr. W. L. Egerton was elected a member of the Association. The President feelingly spoke of the death of Mr. W. H. Saunders, and a vote of condolence was passed with the widow.

London Chamber of Commerce.

THE annual meeting was held in the Chamber's premises on Thursday, April 24, Lord Desborough (President) in the chair. The annual report contained references to several matters of drug-trade interest, which we summarise:

DRUG REGULATIONS IN AUSTRALIA.

The Board of Trade invited the Chamber to furnish statements giving concrete evidence of difficulties experienced by British exporters and manufacturers owing to the varying requirements of the various States of the Commonwealth of Australia in the matter of the labelling of foodstuffs, drugs, etc. As the draft regulations of the Government of New South Wales and Western Australia were available, the views of certain sections and members were forwarded to the Board of Trade in regard to patent medicines, invalid foods, drugs, and druggists' sundries, sandalwood oil, cream of tartar, fruit essences, cordials, syrups, flavourings, and colourings. The Board of Trade were informed that members of the Chamber welcomed the proposal to establish uniform standards and regulations throughout the Commonwealth, particularly as during recent years the regulations have been changed from time to time without notice, firms in some cases receiving the first intimation of new regulations by hearing that their goods had been seized by the Customs, which action, it was submitted, was drastic and unfair.

SPIRITUOUS ESSENCES IN CANADA.

On behalf of members exporting spirituous essences to Canada, representations were made to the High Commissioner for Canada, asking the Canadian Government to accept British Customs certificates as to the strength of spirituous essences, so as to obviate the necessity of broaching and sampling each consignment in order to obtain, for duty purposes, the necessary information as to strength. It was pointed out that it was possible for British firms to obtain certified copies of the certificate issued by the Board of Customs, under which the refund of the spirit-duty was made, and that such certificates were already accepted by the Customs authorities in South Africa and in India. It was therefore suggested that, if this course were adopted, it would save expenses both to the firms interested and the Canadian Customs authorities by obviating the continual analysis of samples. Eventually a letter was received from the High Commissioner stating that instructions had been issued to the collectors of Customs in Canada authorising them to accept British Customs certificates without, however, restricting the right of Canadian Customs officers to test such essences when considered advisable to do so. This concession by the Canadian authorities has proved of great assistance to exporters.

The report included full reference to the

CHEMICAL-TRADE SECTION.

presided over by Mr. John C. Umney, F.C.S. It dealt with the action taken in regard to the manufacture and storage of spirituous preparations in bond, as well as the question of Government analytical certificates, as to which a special committee was appointed. Other subjects which have been dealt with include port dues on senna leaves and pods (which have been reduced), and residual products from gas-works. The action taken on the latter was on the whole successful.

OTHER SECTIONS

dealt with are the Toilet-soap Section, which held eight meetings, Mr. J. C. Umney being Chairman; Perfumery Manufacturers' Section, of which Mr. Eugene V. Barrett is Chairman; and the Owners of Proprietary Articles Section (Chairman, Sir Joseph Beecham), which held seventeen meetings to deal with: (1) Government inquiry into the conditions of the sale of patent and proprietary medicines and foods; (2) suggested Australian standards for foods and drugs, and regulations as to descriptions, labels, etc.; (3) West Australian Health Act, 1911-12, and regulations thereunder; (4) "Secret Remedies" and "More Secret Remedies"; (5) Dominions Royal Commission; and other matters.

Lord Desborough, in proposing the adoption of the annual report, remarked that the Chamber does not exist for London alone. It had always striven to do something for the British Empire, and indeed for the trade of the world as a whole. The influence which the Chamber was able to exert in regard to commercial or cognate matters was not confined to what was done at Oxford Court, but also extended to co-operation with other bodies.

Mr. F. Faithfull Begg seconded the motion, which was unanimously adopted.

Lord Southwark was elected President.

TRADE REPORT.

The prices given in this section are those obtained by importers or manufacturers for bulk quantities or original packages. To these prices various charges have to be added, whereby values are in many instances greatly augmented before wholesale dealers receive the goods into stock, after which much expense may be incurred in garbling and the like. Qualities of chemicals, drugs, oils, and many other commodities vary greatly, and higher prices than those here quoted are charged for selected qualities of natural products even in bulk quantities. Retail buyers cannot, therefore, for these and other reasons, expect to purchase at the prices quoted here.

42 Cannon Street, London, E.C., April 24.

FROM several quarters an extension of buying is reported in connection with the proposed duties under the new American tariff. Particularly does this apply to opium, morphine, cocaine, lemon oil, and several of the spices, including African ginger. A more active demand is also reported in heavy chemicals at all the principal centres, and the tone is decidedly better; in this section, lead-compounds have advanced considerably. Benzols are scarce and firmer; sulphate of ammonia is dull and lower. Among the few changes in drugs, cod-liver oil is again lower. Opium is about 1s. dearer in primary markets on American and speculative buying. Almond oil (B.P.) has gone to an extreme figure, and the English pressers have practically withdrawn from the market. Higher prices have been paid for Alexandrian half-leaf senna; sound arca is scarce, and the demand for insect-flowers has improved. Menthol is quiet and weaker. Milk-sugar tending easier. Saffron firm, and Chinese galls scarce and firmer. Among essential oils, lemon is very firm, with a wider demand. Bergamot tending easier, orange oil firmer. Star anise and cassia oils are both slightly easier. Ceylon cinnamon-leaf is $\frac{1}{8}$ d. firmer. The principal movements have been as under:

Higher	Firmer	Easier	Lower
Almond oil (B.P.)	Benzols	Anise oil (star)	Ammonia
Gum acacia (Sudan)	Cinnamon-leaf oil	Balsam Canada	sulphate
Lead-compounds	Cocaine	Bergamot oil	Shellac
Linseed oil	Galls (China)	Cod-liver oil	Turpentine
Opium	Lemon oil	Menthol	
Senna (Alex.)	Linseed	Milk-sugar	
	Morphine	Olibanum	
	Orange oil	Quinine	
	Valerian	(sec. hand)	

Cablegrams.

BERGEN, April 24.—The cod-fishing at Lofoten is now closing, and that at Finnmarken is uneven owing to stormy weather. Market is quiet, with finest Norwegian medicinal oil offering at 100s. per barrel, c.i.f. terms.

NEW YORK, April 24.—Business is quiet. Opium is firmer at \$6.25 per lb. for druggists'. Peppermint oil in bulk is quiet at \$2.80, and spearmint oil is steady at \$4.60. Curaçao aloes is easier at 8c., and menthol is lower at \$7.25 per lb. Copaiba is firm at 48c.; both hydrastis and podophyllum are unaltered.

London Markets.

ALMOND OIL.—Owing to the unprecedented position of almonds and the almost daily advance in price—they being practically unobtainable—the English pressers have reluctantly been compelled to withdraw all offers of sweet-almond oil. Their price for pure B.P. is now 2s. 7d. per lb. on the cwt. basis, without engagement, but this price cannot be taken as official in view of the scarcity of raw material.

ALOES.—The usual weekly Cape boat brought only five cases from Mossel Bay. Privately good livery Curaçao has been sold at 60s., and capey at 47s. 6d. per cwt.

ANISE OIL (STAR) is slightly easier, with "Red Ship" brand selling on spot at 6s. 7d., and to arrive 6s. 1d. c.i.f. would be accepted.

ANISEED is quoted 25s. per cwt. for Russian and 32s. 6d. for Spanish, but demand is slow.

ARECA.—Good sound nuts are extremely scarce, the value of such being from 24s. upwards.

ARSENIC.—The demand has fallen off of late, and with the output well maintained, supplies are accumulating, so that the outlook is for lower prices.

BALSAM CANADA slightly easier at 6s. per lb. net on the spot.

BALSAM TOLU.—For fair quality in large tins on spot 3s. 8d. is asked, and to arrive, usual assortment, 3s. 3d. c.i.f. is quoted.

BENZOIN.—The *Ping Suey* has brought 99 cases from Singapore.

BERGAMOT OIL.—Quotations vary from 22s. 9d. to 24s. 6d. c.i.f., with a weaker tendency, and on the spot from 25s. 6d. to 26s. is quoted.

An advico from Sicily reports a neglected market with little doing.

CALABAR BEANS.—Small sales have been made in Liverpool at 5½d. per lb.

CAMPHOR OIL.—The *Somali*, from Kobe, has brought 625 cases.

CAMPHOR (CRUDE).—Spot supplies of Chinese have been much reduced of late, and 172s. 6d. is now asked for what is left.

CAMPHOR (REFINED).—To arrive 1s. 4½d. per lb. c.i.f. is quoted for slabs (paid), and 1s. 5½d. c.i.f. for 1-oz. tablets. The spot prices are 1s. 7d. for ¼-oz. and 1s. 6½d. for 1-oz. tablets, and 1s. 6d. for slabs.

CANARY-SEED.—Some business is reported in cleaned River Plate at 90s. per quarter, but other kinds are neglected and prices nominal.

CARAWAY-SEED is unchanged at 25s. to 26s. per cwt. for fair to good Dutch on the spot.

CARDAMOMS.—The exports from Colombo from January 1 to March 31 were 106,194 lb., against 125,303 lb. in 1912, 160,108 lb. in 1911, and 233,689 lb. in 1910. The chief destinations were (figures in parentheses being for 1912): To U.K., 39,356 lb. (39,906 lb.); Germany, 20,616 lb. (44,301 lb.); India, 14,036 lb. (13,656 lb.); U.S.A., 15,845 lb. (9,673 lb.).

CASCARILLA.—The *Oruba*, from Guayaquil, has brought 75 packages.

CASSIA OIL.—A few sales have been made at 3s. 8d. for 80 to 85 per cent., and at 3s. 5d. for 70 to 75 per cent. on spot; also to arrive, sales of 80 to 85 per cent. have been made at 3s. 2½d. to 3s. 3d., and 70 to 75 per cent. at 2s. 10d. to 2s. 11d. c.i.f. for May-June shipment.

CASTOR OIL.—Steady. English make of first pressing for prompt delivery is quoted at 29½, May at 28½ 10s., June at 28½, and July-December 27½ 15s. per ton in barrels, usual terms delivered free on wharf London; pharmaceutical quality is 50s. per ton over the price of first pressing, and oil in tins and cases 50s. per ton over the respective price in barrels. In Liverpool good seconds Calcutta is quoted 3½d. to 3¾d. per lb., and at 3½d. for arrival.

CINCHONA.—The exports from Java to Europe during the first half of April amounted to 418,000 Amst. lb., against 435,000 Amst. lb. for the corresponding period of 1912. The auction to be held at Amsterdam on May 7 will consist of 14,892 packages Ledgeriana, hybrid, and robusta, 397 cases and 1,372 bales Succirubra, or a total of 16,661 packages, weighing about 1,511,308 Amst. lb. The first-hand stock at Amsterdam on April 17 consisted of 10,440 packages Government and 37,700 packages private bark, including the first-hand quantities to be offered at the above auction.

CINNAMON OIL is ½d. per oz. better, with sales of Ceylon leaf at 2½d. per oz.

CITRIC ACID is nominal at from 1s. 8½d. to 1s. 9d.

CITRONELLA OIL.—Ceylon, the supplies of which are small, is quoted at from 1s. 6½d. to 1s. 7½d. per lb. on spot.

COCA-LEAVES.—The auction to be held at Amsterdam on May 7 will consist of 1,952 packages, weighing about 89,669 kilos.

COCAINE.—After the recent series of declines, the market is now believed to have reached its lowest, and is described as "harder," owing to fair quantities having changed hands for export to the U.S.A., where it is proposed to increase the import tax under the new tariff from \$1.50 to \$2 per oz.; 5s. 6d. per oz. less 5 per cent. is now looked upon as a fair average price from makers, and slightly less from second-hands.

COD-LIVER OIL.—With the Finmarken fishing now in full swing and the prospects favourable, prices are again lower, with values of best Norwegian brands at between 100s. and 105s. c.i.f. The market, however, is temporarily demoralised, with buying at a standstill.

According to cabled statistics received from Norway, the catch and output of cod-liver oil up to April 19 was as follows:

	Catch of Cod	Livers for Raw Oil (hect.)	Yield of c.i.o. (hect.)
Lofoten, 1913...	10,000,000	864	5,811
Do. 1912...	—	—	—
Whole country, 1913...	40,500,000	5,409	25,821
Do. 1912...	64,100,000	9,211	49,124

The Lofoten fishing having closed at this period of last year, it will be noticed that comparative figures cannot be given.

Our Bergen correspondent writes on April 21 that the Lofoten cod-fishing is not yet finally closed, but there are now only a few fishermen left, and most of them will probably leave this week. At Finmarken there has been a pretty good fishing, although stormy weather and lack of bait have partly caused interruption. The prospects for continued fishing in this district must be regarded as promising. To-day's report gives the following figures:

Lofoten.			
	1911	1912	1913
Catch of cod (millions) ...	10.5	15.1	10.0
Yield of cod-liver oil (hect.) ...	7,850	12,000	5,800
Livers for "raw" oils (hect.) ...	750	1,200	865

Finmarken.			
	1911	1912	1913
Catch of cod (kilos.) ...	2,940,000	8,570,000	5,700,000
Yield of cod-liver oil (brrls.) ...	713	2,325	1,240
Livers for "raw" oils (hect.) ...	328	1,415	290

The Whole Country.			
	1911	1912	1913
Catch of cod (millions) ...	34.9	65.2	40.5
Yield of cod-liver oil (hect.) ...	24,200	49,500	25,750
Livers for "raw" oils (hect.) ...	5,400	9,200	5,400

Small lots of crude oil have been sold at reduced prices, and in accordance therewith prime new non-congealing medicinal oil is quoted at from 103s. 6d. to 104s. per barrel c.i.f. terms.

COLOCYNTH.—A Trieste report states that gatherers say that the crop of Syrian apples is practically a failure, and higher prices are looked for.

COPPER SULPHATE is slightly easier at 23½ 5s. per ton for the usual Liverpool brands for prompt delivery, and May 22½ 15s.

CORIANDER-SEED is steady, but sales small at 13s. 6d. per cwt. for wormy Morocco and 15s. to 15s. 6d. for good sound.

CREAM OF TARTAR.—There has been a good demand for prompt delivery, but most makers are sold out until June and July, and spot stuff is difficult to obtain at the moment; 98-per-cent. powder is quoted 88s. and 95-per-cent. 86s. per cwt.

CUMIN-SEED.—A few sales of Morocco are reported at 23s. to 24s. 6d. per cwt. for ordinary to good.

FENUGREEK-SEED is firm, with fair sales at 9s. 9d. to 10s. per cwt. for Morocco.

GALLS.—Chinese are firmer, with retail sales on spot at 65s. per cwt.

GUM ACACIA.—Sudan sorts are dearer, the value of good on the spot being from 35s. to 35s. 6d., and 34s. for ordinary sorts mixed with sand; for prompt shipment, from Khartoum, 33s. 6d. c.i.f. is quoted, 6d. less having been refused, and for June shipment 34s. 6d. c.i.f. is wanted. The crop appears to be much smaller than anticipated, and still higher prices are possible. Some large arrivals of Senegal gum are looked for in Bordeaux at the end of the month, the price of which will be 34s. 6d. c.i.f. London for Bas de Fleuve quality for May-June shipment.

HONEY.—Supplies at the moment are coming forward very slowly to the London market; 200 barrels Chilian and 100 cases Californian have arrived in Liverpool.

HYDRASTIS is quoted at from 16s. 6d. to 16s. 9d. per lb. net on spot, according to quantity.

INSECT-FLOWERS have met with an improved demand at unaltered rates, the value of finest closed being from 155s. to 165s., and open 85s. per cwt. on the spot.

IPECACUANHA.—The *Aragon* has brought eight packages from Bahia.

LEMON OIL is very firm at from 12s. 6d. to 13s. per lb. for good brands on the spot, and to arrive from 12s. 6d. to 12s. 9d. c.i.f. is quoted. The improved demand has continued, and a fair amount of buying has taken place in Sicily, chiefly for American account. *Terpenol* has advanced to 91s. per lb. c.i.f. In the new American tariff the proposed duty on lemon oil is to be 10 per cent., whereas it is now duty free.

A Palermo advice dated April 19 states that some orders from consuming places having arrived, the local trade was fairly active, especially in the earlier part of the week. They were mostly small orders for immediate shipment, larger buyers abroad holding back. Prices are entirely unchanged so far as regards the Sicilian position, and what attempts have been made to obtain slight reductions, even for small parcels, did not meet with success, and as buyers wanted the goods quickly they finally paid full market values; for prompt shipment 12s. 4d. c.i.f. is quoted.

LINSEED is firmer at 52s. 6d. to 55s. per quarter for good clean quality.

LINSEED OIL has fluctuated within narrow limits, closing at 25s. 9d. in pipes and 26s. in barrels (E. I. 6d. premium).

A monthly report states that the firmness is rather unexpected, in view of the heavy arrivals of linseed from the Argentine and seed and oil from the U.S.A., but appears to be due to the very heavy demand for near-by deliveries. Future positions have hardened in sympathy, and have been further affected by the news of the Indian linseed-crop. That we will see lower prices, however, we feel confident. There is a huge tonnage yet to come forward from the Argentine; Canada has sold some 150,000 tons to the U.K., shipment May and June, and with the Indian crop arriving in Europe about the same time, there will probably be more than enough seed to satisfy all demands.

MENTHOL is quiet and easier, with sellers of Suzuki at 25s. 6d. and Kobayashi at 26s. on the spot; to arrive April-May shipment of Suzuki has been sold at 24s. c.i.f.

MILK-SUGAR is offered at the lower rate of 51l. 10s. per ton for contract quantities.

MORPHINE.—In view of the advance in opium, makers are not so keen on selling, and quote 10s. 3d. to 10s. 6d. per oz. for hydrochloride powder. In view of the proposed increase in the U.S.A. import duty on morphine from \$1.50 to \$3 per oz., a considerable business has recently been done from second-hands at from 9s. 10d. to 10s. 2d. per oz., the higher figure prevailing at the close.

MUSK is unaltered, the value of thin-skin blue Tonquin pod being 75s., and good old-style 65s. per oz.

OLIBANUM is easier, with sales of good drop on the spot at 45s. per cwt.

OPIUM is dearer, on account of American buying and native speculation, the former being in anticipation of the tariff proposal to double the duty on opium. Some 200 cases are said to have been sold, up to 19s. 3d. per lb. c.i.f. having been paid for 11 per cent. and to-day 20s. 6d. c.i.f. has been quoted in one direction for this test. On the spot Turkey druggists' is quoted 20s. 6d. to 21s. In Persian a fair business has been done

for export at from 21s. to 23s. on the spot, with no sellers to arrive at the moment. It is anticipated that the Turkey opium crop will be a month later than usual owing to unfavourable weather.

Our Smyrna correspondent writes on April 11 again reporting an active market, with sales amounting to 79 cases of 9 per cent. to 11 per cent. mixed qualities at 16s. to 19s. as to quality, etc. With the exception of a few cases reported to have been bought for account of a Constantinople firm, all the opium which changed hands this week is destined for the consuming markets—England, the Continent, and U.S.A. The arrivals in Smyrna are 2,349 cases, against 1,159 at the same date last year.—A Constantinople correspondent writes on April 19 that the sales for the week amount to 66 cases druggists' at from 270 to 295 ptrs., eight cases "softs" at 300 ptrs., and four cases Malatias at 300 ptrs. Market closed firm with buyers. The demand is principally from the United States, where the importers are buying in view of the proposed doubling of the import tax on opium. Some favourable rains have fallen this week.

ORANGE OIL is rather firmer, at from 11s. 3d. to 12s. 3d. per lb. c.i.f., according to shipper. An advice from primary sources reports the demand as fairly active, and it certainly exceeds the spontaneous offerings. Consequently the position is very strong, and sellers have already advanced their prices for what little has been sold. Stocks are exceedingly light and in strong hands. On the spot West Indian *sweet* is quoted 10s. 9d. and *bitter* at 10s. 6d. per lb., there being no offers to arrive. The bulk of the crop, which proved small, was chiefly taken up by American buyers.

PEPPERMINT OIL.—Retail sales of American H.G.H. are reported at 14s. 9d., and for good brands of Wayne County from 11s. 9d. to 12s. is quoted from first-hand, but business is practically at a standstill; *Todd's* crystal-white is 13s. to 13s. 6d. Rather more demand is reported for Japanese dementholised, with spot sales at 6s. 3d. to 6s. 4d., and to arrive 6s. 3d. c.i.f. is quoted for Kobayashi.

POTASHES.—The Liverpool quotation is now 37s. 6d. to 38s., but nominal in the absence of supplies; spot is quoted 40s.

QUICKSILVER is steady, second-hands quoting 7l. 1s. and first-hands 7l. 10s. per bottle. During the past fortnight 15,000 flasks have arrived from Seville.

QUILLAIA.—The *Oropesa*, from Valparaiso, has brought 266 bales to Liverpool; market is firm at that port at 27l. 10s. per ton for shipment; and in London about 30l. to 31l. is quoted.

QUININE.—The tendency is easier in second-hands, with sellers at from 9½d. to 10d. per oz. for the usual brands of German sulphate.

RHUBARB.—Small sales of good bold heavy flat Shensi, also medium size, with even pinky fracture, have been made at 3s. 9d. Round well-trimmed Canton of good fracture has been sold at 4s., and ordinary at 2s. 4d. Retail sales of Rhapontica character have been made at 5d. per lb.

SAFFRON is firm at from 47s. 6d. to 48s. per lb. net for superior Valencia.

SARSAPARILLA.—The *Oruba* has brought 13 packages from Panama.

SENNA.—Alexandrian half-leaf is very scarce, and for export, business has been done at firmer c.i.f. prices.

SHELLAC.—Quiet and easier to the extent of 1s., usual standard TN Orange offering at 76s. to 77s., and free AC Garnet at 76s.; to arrive, May-June shipment, sellers quote TN at 79s. and AC Garnet at 74s. c.i.f. Futures are lower on the week, the sales including May at 75s. to 77s.; August 77s. 6d. to 79s. 6d., and October 79s. to 81s.

SOY is steady at from 1s. 5½d. to 1s. 6d. per gal., duty paid, for Seuloong. The *Carmarthenshire* has brought 454 casks from Hong-Kong.

SPERMACETI.—American refined is quoted 11d. per lb. spot.

SPICES.—At auction *Ginger* was quiet. Good small cut Calicut in cases was bought in at 45s., and of 682 bags a few lots sold, comprising cut tips at 37s., brown cuttings 35s., and brown Calicut, rough, 30s. to 31s. Of *Cloves*

117 bales Zanzibar offered, and 100 sold without reserve at 9½*d.* for fair mixed part dark and perished; 100 bales stems sold without reserve at 3½*d.* Privately market is firmer at 10½*d.* spot, and to arrive the sales include August-October shipment at 6½*d.*, September-November at 6½*d.* to 6¾*d.*, and October-December at 6½*d.*, c.i.f. d.w.; for March-May and June-August delivery sellers quote 10*d.* Both *Mace* and *Nutmegs* were steady. Of *Pepper* 79 bags good Tellicherry were bought in at 5¾*d.*, and 40 bags bold Alleppy at 5½*d.*; the private market is firm, with fair Singapore quoted 5½*d.*, and for arrival June-August shipment has been sold at 4¾*d.* and buyers, and July-September at 4½*d.*; white pepper was not offered; privately fair Singapore is quoted 8½*d.*, and fair Muntok at 8½*d.* on spot; arrival market is firm, with buyers of Singapore for August-October shipment at 8½*d.*, and sellers at 8¾*d.*

SQUILL.—A Trieste advice states that no spot is available, new goods not being ready until July-September. On the spot fair white is quoted at 2¾*d.* to 3*d.*, fine being wanting.

TARTARIC ACID is unaltered and in fair demand; English is quoted 1*s.* 0½*d.* to 1*s.* 0¾*d.*, and foreign 1*s.* 0¼*d.* per lb.

TRAGACANTH.—Druggists' firsts are scarce, up to 20*l.* per cwt. having been paid for such, and seconds are worth from 16*l.* to 17*l.*

TURPENTINE has receded about 9*d.* per cwt. on the week, closing at 28*s.* 9*d.* for American on spot.

A monthly report states that the market suddenly collapsed after the middle of March, due to the financial embarrassment of one of the largest operators in the U.S.A. Their affairs are, however, being satisfactorily arranged, importing a more optimistic tone, with the result that by the end of March the decline was wholly recovered. During the last few days, owing to heavy resales, there has been another set-back. It is not improbable that after this month prices may improve, as at present low values it is said there is little or no profit to producers. Thus the crop might reasonably be expected to be smaller than last season, which, with the increased consumptive demand, should raise quotations.

VALERIAN.—The value has improved about 1*s.* per cwt. since last week, Belgian, offering at c.i.f. terms 37*s.* to 38*s.*

WAX, CARNAUBA.—Small sales of chalky grey have been made at 15*s.* 6*d.* per cwt. on spot.

WAX, JAPANESE.—To arrive a small business has been done on c.i.f. terms at 40*s.* 6*d.*, being steady; spot value is 46*s.*

Heavy Chemicals.

The heavy-chemical market is busier, and there is an active demand both for main and miscellaneous products at all the principal centres; in fact, the current production is being well taken up. Values are on the whole very well maintained, and fluctuations are few and comparatively nominal in character.

SULPHATE OF AMMONIA, contrary to most products, is distinctly dull, and lower figures are accepted all round. Present nearest prices: Beckton, 25 per cent. ammonia guaranteed, prompt, 13*l.* 15*s.*; London terms, 12*l.* 17*s.* 6*d.* to 13*l.*; Leith, 15*l.* 17*s.* 6*d.*; Liverpool, 13*l.* 16*s.* 3*d.*; and Hull, 13*l.* 15*s.* Forward business would probably be possible at about 5*s.* per ton less, but there seems to be little doing in this direction.

LEAD-PRODUCTS have advanced considerably, and close firm. Dry white-lead, 24*l.* 10*s.*; red-lead, 21*l.* 10*s.*; pig-lead, 19*l.* 15*s.*; sheets, 25*l.*; and pipes, 25*l.* 10*s.* per ton, Tyne.

BENZOLS, especially for prompt, are on the scarce side, and prices have improved somewhat. Present naked figures: 90 per cent., 1*s.* 0¼*d.*, and 50 per cent., 10½*d.*; North, 11½*d.* to 1*s.* and 10*d.* respectively.

BICHROMATES OF POTASH AND SODA are in fair average demand, though the former stands better than the latter. Prices are steady. Bichromate of potash, English and Scotch deliveries, 3½*d.* per lb., less 5 per cent., and export, 3½*d.* per lb. net, f.o.b. Glasgow. Bichromate of soda, English and Scotch deliveries, 3*d.* per lb., less 5 per cent., and 2¾*d.* per lb. net, f.o.b. Glasgow, for export.

ZINC SALTS remain steady at unchanged rates, with normal movement. Zinc-sulphate crystals, 7*l.* 10*s.* to 7*l.* 15*s.*; and zinc chloride, 100° Tw., 7*l.* 5*s.* to 7*l.* 10*s.* per ton.

MAGNESIUM SALTS are moving well, both on home and export account, and prices are steady and well maintained. Sulphate, 67*s.* 6*d.* to 72*s.* 6*d.*; chloride, 67*s.* 6*d.* to 72*s.* 6*d.*; and carbonate, 30*s.* to 37*s.* 6*d.* per cwt.

Manchester Chemical Market.

April 22.

There has been a better feeling in most classes of chemicals during the past week; indeed, the tone has been decidedly better all round. Sulphate of copper has experienced more inquiry; speaking generally, the quantities are small, but prices have been helped on by the higher figures which have ruled for the raw metal. There has been an advance of 5*s.* to 7*s.* 6*d.* per ton for delivery in May, June, and July; for prompt the figure is 20*l.* to 20*l.* 5*s.* per ton, delivered Manchester. In connection with bleaching-powder, it is reported that some uneasiness has been caused among consumers who have not yet fully covered their requirements, but prices remain at the time of writing nominally unchanged. Nitrate of soda and sulphate of ammonia have not experienced the usual demand, owing to unfavourable weather both at home and abroad. The latter may be quoted at from 13*l.* 13*s.* 9*d.* to 13*l.* 15*s.* per ton, f.o.r. Manchester.

Continental Drug and Chemical Markets.

ALOES.—Cape aloes is firm on the Hamburg market, and cannot be bought under m.83 per 100 kilos., while Curaçao is not offered; the new crop is offered at m.77½, but the high price prohibits business.

CALABAR BEANS in better demand, and firm, with buyers in Hamburg at m.115 per 100 kilos., but first-hands are unwilling to accept this figure.

CANTHARIDES.—Russian is firm, with a good demand on the Hamburg market, m.8 per kilo. having been paid on the spot; to arrive m.7.90 net might possibly buy.

CEVADILLA.—Although shippers have endeavoured to maintain prices, business has been done at cheaper rates, the crop having proved larger than had been anticipated, the earlier reports in regard to a smaller production having proved incorrect; from m.110 to m.115 per 100 kilos. is quoted in Hamburg, but interest is lacking, and a further decline is possible.

CONDURANGO.—The Hamburg stock in first-hands is estimated at about 800 bales, and lower prices are quoted. The values are now at a level which renders business unprofitable, and for the present further shipments from primary sources are not expected.

ERGOT tending easier, with offers for early shipment at m.7.20 and prompt at m.7 per kilo.

GLYCERIN.—A lack of business has continued on the international glycerin-market during the past few weeks, and only isolated contracts have been concluded, particularly for spot (Marseilles) saponification quality at from fr.157.50 to fr.160 per 100 kilos.; on the other hand, 80-per-cent. crude has been sold for next year's delivery at fr.135. Prices are as follows: Saponification, spot and delivery over 1913, fr.160, delivery over 1914, buyers at fr.155 and no sellers; 80-per-cent. crude, spot and delivery over 1913, fr.137.50, and delivery over 1914, fr.135 per 100 kilos.

IPCACUANHA is quiet, with Cartagena offering at m.17.50 and Rio at m.18 per kilo. in Hamburg.

JALAP.—Considerable sales have lately been made in Hamburg, and stocks there are now much smaller. High-percentage test is not obtainable under m.4.25, and low-percentage under m.1.80 to m.1.90 per kilo. According to outside reports, only small lots of low-testing root may be looked for, while high-percentage is unobtainable.

KOLA is firm and unchanged, with limited sales. Quarters are quoted m.80 and halves m.82 per 100 kilos.

TIN OXIDE.—Some makers hitherto belonging to the Convention have seceded, but in spite of this the Convention is likely to be continued. The secession took place on account of the fact that "outsiders" have been quoting extremely low prices. No material reduction, however, is looked for on account of the changed position.

WAX, CARNAUBA.—A more confident tone has been shown, but it has not found expression in better prices. Yellow grades have been more sought after; for medium yellow m.300 and for prime yellow m.460 per 100 kilos. net has been paid.

NEW ZEALAND CENSUS OF MANUFACTURES.—An official return places the output of chemical-works in New Zealand during the year ended March 1911 at 49,866*l.*, aerated-water factories at 250,571*l.*, and soap and candle works at 268,635*l.*

DEARER PARAFFIN WAX.—The Anglo-American Oil Co. (the British representatives of the Standard Oil Co. of America) have fixed their new contract prices for paraffin wax at figures which represent an advance of ¼*d.* per lb. on last year's contract prices, and ¾*d.* per lb. on current spot prices. The Scottish companies will follow suit without delay, probably with an advance of ¼*d.* per lb. On their annual output of 28,000 tons this represents an increase in revenue of 65,000*l.* per annum.—*Financial Times*.

American Tariff Bill.

THE Board of Trade are informed by the Foreign Office that copies of the new Customs Tariff Bill have been despatched by H.M. Ambassador at Washington. On receipt of a copy the Board propose to lay before Parliament, and publish as soon as possible, a Return showing, in the form of a comparative statement, the existing and proposed rates of duty. The Board have meanwhile received telegraphic information from the British Embassy at Washington to the effect that the more important changes in the tariff regulations which are proposed by the Bill are as follows:

(1) Fee of \$1 to be paid for each appeal or protest against a tariff decision.

(2) Thirty days allowed for appeals, instead of fifteen.

(3) Foreign sellers, manufacturers or shippers, as well as United States importers, to show their books, under penalty of refusal to allow entry of goods.

(4) Foreign commissionaires and purchasing agents to be registered with the United States Consul; various conditions imposed on registration.

(5) Dumping duty, not to exceed 15 per cent. *ad valorem*, to be imposed, equal to difference between fair market price and actual purchase price.

Meanwhile much speculation is going on as to the effect of the proposed revision both in England and America. Members of the New York wholesale drug and chemical trades are of the opinion that the contemplated changes will have little more than a temporary restraining influence upon purchasing operations, and will work no appreciable hardship upon any branch. This is the opinion of Mr. Joseph Plant, of Lehn & Fink, who, according to the "New York Commercial," does not look for any noteworthy opposition from the New York drug-trade, and after some of the inconsistencies, such as the attempted taxation of some crude drugs and the contemplated placing of their derivatives on the free list, have been straightened out, believes that the Bill will be passed substantially as it now stands. Another important drug-importing firm (Peck & Velsor) describe the section of certain crude drugs hitherto on the free list for heavy import duties as "indiscriminate and haphazard."

"There seems to be no underlying reason, except that of increased revenue for the Government, for the attempted taxation on import of such botanicals as sarsaparilla-root, gentian-root, and buchu-leaves, which cannot be produced in this country, while other crude drugs are left on the free list," says Mr. Velsor. "So far as the proposed increased tariff on many of the crude drugs is concerned, however, neither the importers nor subsequent handlers will suffer any inconvenience or embarrassment, as it will be the ultimate consumer who will have to pay the increased cost."

The American Trading Co. are of opinion that the importer of Oriental drugs has no ground for complaint, but add that the proposed change in the duties on Japanese camphor will make it increasingly difficult for the American refiners to meet the competition of Japanese refiners. Camphor has hitherto been on the free list, while the duty on the refined is to be reduced a cent to 5 cents per lb., thereby placing American makers at a disadvantage of 2 cents per lb. The other proposed changes generally favour the importers. Thus the duty on agar-agar is to be lowered from 25 per cent. to 20 per cent., while menthol is to be reduced from 25 per cent. *ad val.* to a specific duty of 50 cents per lb., thereby entailing, at present prices, a saving of about \$1 per lb. Since we notified many of the proposed alterations in our issue of April 12 further changes have been incorporated by the House Democratic Caucus: these include the placing of phosphoric acid on the free list; castor oil is changed from 15 to 12 per cent., sperm oil from 5 to 8 per cent., and vanilla-beans from 50 cents to 30 cents per lb.

WILLIAM MILLION, chemist's assistant, Liverpool Road, Islington, N., was defendant in a breach of promise case heard at the Sheriff of London's Court on April 24. He had courted Miss Jessie R. Harris, Oxford, until January 4 this year, but married a widow. He was ordered to pay Miss Harris 50*l.* for trifling with her affections.



Memoranda for Correspondents.

All communications must be accompanied by the names and addresses of the writers, otherwise they cannot be dealt with. Queries by subscribers on dispensing, legal, and miscellaneous subjects connected with the business are replied to in these columns if they are considered to be of general interest.

Letters submitted for publication (if suitable) should be written on one side of the paper only. Their publication in "The Chemist and Druggist" does not imply Editorial agreement with the opinions expressed.

Friar's Balsam.

SIR,—It is not quite clear from the interesting note by "Xrayser II." in your last issue as to what he regards as being the origin of the name Friar's Balsam; neither does it appear from Wootton's "Chronicles" as to how far back the name can be traced. It is certainly considerably older than the Schedule of the Medicine Stamp Act, 1812, and older than Grubb's "Friar's Drops" of 1777. James, in his "English Dispensatory" of 1747, when speaking of the Balsamum Traumaticum of the Ph. Lond. of 1746, says that both the London and Edinburgh formulæ are

"made in Imitation of a Medicine, which has been of considerable use in private Families, call'd the Jesuits' Drops, or Fryer's Balsam. There are, I believe, at least twenty People in London, who get a comfortable Subsistence by selling it as an Arcanum, under various Names and Titles. And one has had the Impudence to obtain a patent for it, tho', in order to this, he must have been obliged to swear it his own Invention, in Defiance of Conscience and the Pillory, notwithstanding that Pomet published the Receipt, in his History of Drugs, many Years ago. It is much celebrated Abroad, under the Name of Baume de Commandeur de Berne, or Balsamum Commendatoris."

He then gives the recipe given by Pomet. Whence the original recipe came I am unable to trace beyond what Pomet says—namely, that he had it from "Mr. Pimodan, the King's Lieutenant of Toul in Lorraine" (Eng. trans., second edition, 1725). It is just possible that some further information may be obtained by following another clue, as I find Brookes ("An Introduction to Physic and Surgery," 1754), under the heading of Balsamum Catholicum, gives a formula almost identical with Pomet's, and says:

"This is taken from Musitanus, but is in Pomet, Lemery and other Authors under different Names. The most common is Friar's Balsam."

Musitanus wrote treatises on women's diseases and venereal diseases, etc., about the beginning of the eighteenth century. By the way, can anyone tell to how late a period Friar's Balsam was quoted in proprietary-medicine lists? I have a copy of Butler's & Crispe's list of 1865, in which it appears as a 1*s.* 1½*d.* article, and costs wholesale 9*s.* per dozen.

Yours faithfully,

Manchester, April 21.

WILLIAM KIRKBY.

[We append an extract from "Alpe" (pp. 49-50), written in 1888:

Friar's balsam and Grubb's fryar's drops.—A patent was taken out by Robert Grubb in 1777 for "a certain medicine called the Friar's Drops for the cure of the venereal disease, scurvy, rheumatism, stranguary, and gleans, without an electuary or pills, in every stage of the complaint, or without any confinement or particular regimen." To make the drops, rectified spirits are added to calomel, "purging antimony," guaiacum-wood, balsam of Peru, extract of hemlock, white sugar candy, oil of sassafras, tartaric acid, and gum arabic. (Abridgements published by the Commissioners of Patents.) This is in all probability the medicine called "friar's balsam" and "Grubb's fryar's drops," the words "balsam" and "drops" being used indiscriminately in the old nomenclature of quack medicines, for its history can be traced through all the Medicine Stamp Acts; thus:

In the Act of 1785 it is described as	Fryar's balsam.
" 1802 "	{ Grubb's fryar's drops
" 1803 "	{ Fryar's balsam
" 1804 "	{ Grubb's fryar's drops
" 1804 "	{ Fryar's balsam
" 1812 "	{ Grubb's fryar's drops
" 1812 "	{ Fryar's balsam
" 1812 "	{ Grubb's fryar's drop
" 1812 "	{ Fryar's balsam

The compiler of the last schedule appears to have inadvertently written the name by which the compound tincture of benzoin has long been popularly known, and for some time this tincture when sold as "friar's balsam" was considered chargeable with duty. The true "friar's balsam," or rather "fryar's drops," of the Medicine Stamp Act is still put up in small triangular glass bottles for exportation, though rarely, if ever, used in this country, and consequently the compound tincture of benzoin, the formula of which is in the British Pharmacopoeia, may now be sold as "friar's balsam" without liability to duty.

This does not throw much light on the difficulties referred to by Mr. Kirkby, but it indicates well an official view of how tr. benzoin. co. came to be synonymous with Fryar's Balsam.—EDITOR, *C. & D.*]

Medical Benefit for Ireland.

SIR,—In your issue of April 19 Mr. Suffern draws the proverbial red-herring across the trail by pointing out the fact that my name is not present on the Pharmaceutical register. He goes a step farther by ignoring the presence of Mrs. McMichael's name on the register. Thanks to the Editor, Mr. Suffern was enlightened on this matter. Still, Mr. Suffern wonders at such epithets as "making statements contrary to facts, misrepresenting, etc.," being hurled at him by members of the Pharmaceutical Society. After a meagre five lines, in a semi-apologetic tone, in which he does not attempt to explain his omission of Ballycastle from the towns of Antrim, he proceeds to attack one of the principal members of the Pharmaceutical Society. I cannot say I admire such tactics.

Yours faithfully,

J. A. McMICALH.

SIR,—I notice that in his evidence given before the Insurance Committee on March 27, Mr. Watson stated: "Although we have scarcely had time to consult with our Licentiates all over Ireland, we think it may be taken for granted that we shall have the support of all the Irish pharmacists in what we ask."

I should like to ask Mr. Watson through your journal what steps were taken to communicate with the Licentiates? How many were consulted, and how many were not communicated with at all? If some were consulted, why were the others ignored? I, in common with many other members or Licentiates, have not received any communication from the Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland, and should like to know how Mr. Watson arrives at his conclusion that he expects the support of all the Irish Licentiates in what he asks.

Yours faithfully,

Belfast, April 22. M. P. S. I. (52/29.)

Parcel-post to Nicaragua Wanted.

SIR,—As a subscriber to your paper I would like to call your attention to the following: Great Britain has no parcel-post connection with the Atlantic coast of Nicaragua. There exists such a service for the Pacific coast *viâ* Colon, Panama, which service is so insecure that lost packages are not refunded and no package can be insured. The United States are doing a tremendous business to the Atlantic coast by parcel-post. Germany is going to establish such a service in a very short time, also the steamers of the Hamburg-American line are already coming twice a month to the Atlantic coast. Only England is staying behind. Owing to the vexatious Customs regulations of all Central American Republics, it is not quite feasible, or does not pay, to import certain articles in any other way than by parcel-post. Small invoices for manufactured drugs, such as pills, tablets, quinine, etc., are best imported that way, and it is not quite clear to me why your postal authorities have been deaf to the repeated applications made from here by would-be importers. I confess that I am writing *pro domo*, because I am one of these would-be importers. But

certainly there are in England many would-be exporters, and in their interest the British Government should establish the parcel-post *viâ* New Orleans to Bluefields, which is the shortest and quickest route. There is another route *viâ* Costa Rica and Colorado Bar, which is not only longer, but dangerous, as several ships and many people have got lost at the tricky Colorado Bar. Being a subscriber, I have noticed your desire to foster the English export trade, and I am sure you will accord to these lines a good reception. I read your paper with much interest.—Yours very truly,

Rama, Nicaragua.

CARLOS BERGER.

Apothecaries' Assistants.

SIR,—Anent your correspondent's letter appearing over the title "Chemist and Druggist" in your issue of April 19, may I be permitted to remark that, as I do not hail from the north of the Tweed, a native want of the sense of humour can scarcely be imputed to me? Consequently, I do not hesitate to say that the words "ironical humour" appearing in the editorial footnote would have been more suitably expressed by the words "crass stupidity." Unless a condition of mental atrophy supervenes as a result of the enormous expenditure of brain power involved in preparing for the Minor or Assistants' examination of the Pharmaceutical Society (see 1852 Act), it is impossible to explain how your correspondent could imagine the Apothecaries' Society to act in a way not provided for by statute, and commit an act palpably *ultra vires*. The "assistant" or dispenser of the Apothecaries' Society, on the other hand, is merely asking that the intention of the Legislature, as laid down in a public Act, shall be carried into effect by the body entrusted with that duty by the State; so the parallel endeavoured to be demonstrated in reality does not exist. (Exit "ironical humour.") "Chemist and Druggist" in reality has my very deep sympathy, for he apparently realises that his statutory position, under the Pharmacy Acts at any rate, places him in a position not very superior to that of the Irish "Registered Druggist," and he, very naturally, is ambitious of obtaining a qualification that specifically entitles him to compound [for apothecaries.—EDITOR] all substances used [by apothecaries.—EDITOR] in the treatment and relief of morbid conditions—*i.e.*, medicines. Presuming that this is so, and as the Apothecaries Act (Sect. 20) does not recognise him, I, with all sincerity, advise him to prepare for the examination; and should he meet his "Waterloo" there, he may fully console himself with the definite knowledge that his fate has been previously shared by more than one hopeful and ambitious "C. & D."

Yours faithfully,

FRANCIS E. TRAYNER.

Hon. Sec. Association Certificated Dispensers,
Apothecaries' Hall.

Subscribers' Symposium.

For questions, answers, incidents, and interchange of opinions among "C. & D." readers.

Paine's Reagent for Glucose.

Can any reader give a reference to a reagent for glucose under the name of Paine or Pane?—(39/36.)

Appreciations.

"I am enclosing my fifteenth subscription to THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST," writes H. J. W. (263/34). "It has been a good assistant in my business during that time, always ready to give information upon every subject of interest to pharmacists."

"The articles on Insurance and the pricing column have been of the greatest benefit to me, all of which I have read carefully. As this is the first time I have ever written you for information, I may state that I don't see how I could get on without the *C. & D.* I consider it simply indispensable to a chemist in business, and I always look forward to Friday night when it comes in, and keep that night sacred to its perusal. The evidence of the Select Committee on Patent Medicines I simply revel in, and in fact Friday night with the *C. & D.* is the most contented of the week." So writes A Subscriber in Scotland (8/16).

Dispensing Notes.

This section is for the discussion and solution of dispensing problems and prescriptions submitted by "C. & D." readers. We are always pleased to receive the opinions of readers for publication. "The Art of Dispensing" ("C. & D." Office, 6s.) is the standard book of reference on this subject.

Some Egyptian Problems.

Mr. Alex. Hazboun, Ph.C., Tantah, sends us for solution the following dispensing difficulties:

1. The following mixture is colourless when prepared, but in a day or so turns brown and eventually black. To what is this due, and how can it be prevented?

Sodii salicyl.	...	...	...	3vj.
Sodii bicarb.	...	...	...	3ij.
Sodii citr.	...	...	...	3iiij.
Aquam ad	...	...	...	3vj.

[This coloration commonly occurs with salicylates in conjunction with an alkali. It is due apparently to traces of some product, associated with salicylic acid, akin to that which causes at times coloration of phenol. We have seen the blackening occur very pronouncedly when a natural salicylate was used, and less markedly with a physiologically pure salt, and *vice versa*. At times the colour appears only after a week or more, so that the cause evidently varies in quantity. The suggestion has been made to retard the production of coloration by using distilled water charged with carbonic-acid gas. The condition, however, is so well recognised now that it is regarded as a matter of routine. The matter is dealt with in "The Art of Dispensing," p. 243.]

2. The following mixture became gelatinous within a few days. To what is this due?

Tinct. belladon.	...	...	...	6
Vin. ipecac.	...	...	...	5
Syr. tolu.	...	...	...	25
Aquam ad	...	...	...	200

[We have not succeeded in reproducing a gelatinous mixture from this prescription. The cause is due either to bacteria or enzymes. The former might be in the water, the latter in the ipecacuanha. We are disposed, however, to place the blame on the water. At times we have had a flavoured water go "ropy." Your climate is more favourable to the nurture of micro-organisms than ours, and presumably what is "ropy" with us may be gelatinous with you. We believe that if you use recently boiled water the change will not occur so quickly. The mixture, however, is such that it will in any case not keep good very long.]

3. In preparing the following ointment the lard was so hard that I had to melt it by heat and pour it on the Peruvian balsam and sulphur in a mortar, but on doing so the lard would not mix with the other ingredients, which became a hard mass of a resinous nature. The ointment is intended for scabies, and in order not to waste the ointment it was necessary to dissolve the mass in alcohol:

Balsam. peruv.	...	...	...	250 grams
Sulphur. præcip.	...	...	...	100 grams
Adipis benzoat.	...	...	...	1,200 grams

[Balsam of Peru should be introduced into ointments *in the cold*. Heating with an ointment base always leads to the condition of which you have had experience. When the basis is firm and requires to be melted, it is well to let it cool again until it is in a soft-solid condition, when the balsam can be incorporated easily and uniformly. You did the right thing in dissolving the residue in alcohol. Should you have a similar condition to deal with again, you will facilitate the operation by warming the balsam residue until the fat just melts, rinsing quickly with a little petrol—which dissolves the fat, but not the balsam—while still soft, rubbing into a working condition with the alcohol, preferably absolute.]

4. I use carmine to colour powders. Some time ago I used the N.F. solution, but found that after some time it becomes mouldy, although it contains glycerin. What would be a better preservative? It is intended for use in an atomiser together with an essential oil. Would it not be better to substitute alcohol for water in the formula of the N.F. or the other formulæ in P.F.?

[The N.F. carmine solution does not contain enough glycerin to keep it from going mouldy. The "Pharmaceutical Formulas" solution (p. 633) contains enough for this purpose. A glycerin solution is not the best to use for powders. Spirit in that respect is better. As we apprehend your requirement, it is to colour powder for insufflation. We find a very easy way of obtaining good colour and fine distribution of carmine is to rub down

the carmine with a few drops of weak ammonia-water, disperse it well over the mortar, then add the powder, and triturate until the colour is uniform. If the powder be exposed for a few minutes, any traces of ammonia that the trituration has not dissipated will evaporate.]

Legal Queries.

Before writing about your difficulty consult "The Chemists' and Druggists' Diary," 1913, pp. 211-242 and pp. 457-459, where most legal difficulties are anticipated.

N. J. (50/21).—"Head Tablet, Stops the pain in ten minutes," makes the preparation liable to medicine stamp-duty if it is not an entire drug, while if the latter, the tablets can be sold unstamped by chemists and licensed medicine vendors only.

J. L. P. (49/72).—The regulations respecting CARBOLIC-ACID PREPARATIONS containing not more than 3 per cent., which come into force on May 1, will not apply to local sanitary authorities who give away disinfectants, but solely to retail sales of the preparations.

Jack (49/47).—The father of the lad of seventeen is liable for payment of the surgical appliance that you have supplied to the son, both on account of the fact that the son is an infant, and also that the father has admitted the debt and paid a portion of it. You are quite right in suing the father for payment, and not the son.

Rex (50/7) asks: What is the cheapest way of dissolving a limited company? [The company should be wound-up voluntarily, and a liquidator appointed. The winding-up must be determined on by means of a special resolution—i.e., an extraordinary resolution passed at one meeting and confirmed at a subsequent meeting. The resolution must be advertised in the "Gazette." Sections 182 to 198 of the Companies Act, 1908, prescribe the procedure to be adopted and the duties of the liquidator. We assume that the company is solvent.]

King (51/54).—INCOME-TAX.—When it is clear from the average of three years to the date finishing the current year that the last assessment was excessive, repayment of the excess paid can be obtained on production of the voucher showing the amount then paid, and obtaining a form for the purpose of making a claim from the Surveyor of Taxes. In that form the applicant must state the figures on which he relies to prove that the current year of trading made a lower average of three years to that date than the amount charged in the last assessment. What you have to do is to forward your claim and voucher to the Secretary, Claims Department, Somerset House, London, W.C. You can obtain the form of application, No. 40, from your local Surveyor of Taxes.

Miscellaneous Inquiries.

We do not undertake to analyse and report upon proprietary articles, and when samples are sent particulars should be supplied to us as to their origin, what they are, what they are used for and how.

We do not as a rule repeat information which has been given in this section during the past twelve months, as it occupies space which can be more profitably utilised for other information. In such cases the numbers are mentioned, and if querists cannot refer to these they may obtain the numbers from the "C. & D." Office at the published prices, usually 6d.

Felix (32/74) asks what would be the fairest way To SELL AN OLD-ESTABLISHED BUSINESS (light retail and dispensing), with fifty years' unsullied goodwill behind it, and a full off-licence for the retail sale (bottles only) of wines and spirits? Total returns, 1,040l. per annum. What should be asked for the goodwill, and what for the licence? Annual returns from wines and spirits alone, 240l. [Such businesses are not in great demand, and there is some difficulty in selling where a wine and spirit licence is attached. We would suggest offering the business on the basis of one year's net profit for goodwill (based upon the average of the last three years), such sum to include the wine and spirit licence. The stock and fixtures to be sold by valuation.]

Aspirin (36/55) wants a remedy for "NIGHT FALL," whatever that may be. We have not heard of it before, and have made inquiries, without result. It seems to be a local or Wiltshire term. We presume that it may refer to a horse sleeping while standing, and falling over, which a great many do. Until we know exactly what it is we cannot prescribe a remedy.

A. B. K. (46/10).—GOVERNMENT LABORATORY CHEMISTS.—Particulars regarding these appointments can be obtained from the Civil Service Commissioners, Burlington Gardens, London, W.

Remijia (51/11).—PHOSPHORATED SUET, 1 in 10, is a suitable form in which to keep phosphorus for pill-making.

Lime (49/50).—Bleaching-powder is popularly known as "chloride of lime."

C. G. S. (40/7).—BOOK ON STEEL AND IRON ANALYSIS.—The most useful book on this subject with which we are acquainted is Arnold and Ibbotson's "Steel-works Analysis" (Whittaker, 1907, 10s. 6d.). Johnson's "Rapid Methods for the Chemical Analysis of Special Steels, etc." (Chapman & Hall, 1909), is also good. Another work, more extended, is Bracerley and Ibbotson's "Analysis of Steel-works Materials" (Longmans, 1902, 14s.). There are also numerous books on metallurgy in which the subject is dealt with, but those mentioned above deal with the particular phase of the subject about which you inquire.

M. & L. (44/40).—COD-LIVER OIL CATTLE-FEED.—Mr. L. C. Tipper was the originator of the method of administering cod-liver oil to animals. In his patent (expired) 3814/1886 he explains his discovery as follows:

My invention consists in the admixture of cod-liver oil in various proportions with meal in a simple state, or the meal may be made up with a variety of other ingredients according to the requirements of the case, or the oil may be mixed with the component parts of any preparation, special or otherwise, and any preparation or simple ingredient shall, in consequence of the addition of cod-liver oil, then become and be sold as a meal containing the cod-liver oil in an absorbed form.

To make a preparation embodying the above idea, you should mix linseed-meal with about 10 per cent. of cod-liver oil, which can be made more palatable by the addition of fenugreek or similar spices. With the object of protecting the cod-liver oil from oxidation it should be mixed with some linseed oil before being added to the meal.

R. L. & Co. (39/67).—FIRE-PROOFING CLOTHING.—The phosphate and chloride of ammonium, being neutral salts, are not likely to have any irritating effect when employed as fire-proofing agents for clothing.

Booco (39/66).—We do not know the method of making jelly crystals, but a few experiments with the formula for jelly tablets should put you on the track.

H. J. W. (263/34).—TINCT. CAMPH. CO. AQUOS.—The alcohol in the B.P. formula is replaced by a menstruum consisting of:

Strong acetic acid	...	...	2½ vols.
Glycerin	...	...	25 vols.
Distilled water to	...	...	100 vols.

C. F. C. (47/8).—The information that the liquid is "a preparation used for cattle" is much too vague to induce us to examine it.

S. H. P. (36/53).—HAIR-DYE.—The sample you send is of the lead-and-sulphur type, usually known as hair-restorer. The following from "Pharmaceutical Formulas" is a representative recipe:

Lead acetate	...	...	5iss.
Milk of sulphur	...	...	3j.
Glycerin	...	...	5ij.
Heliotrope perfume	...	...	5ij.
Water to	...	...	5x.

Damp the sulphur with spirit, mix with the lead and glycerin, add the water gradually, and finally the perfume.

R. & Co. (48/12).—We cannot undertake to identify the small piece of tablet which you send.

J. R. (46/45).—(1) NAIL-POLISH.—The following is from "Pharmaceutical Formulas":

Putty-powder	...	...	5viij.
Carmine	...	...	3j.
Otto of rose	...	...	mvj.
Oil of neroli	...	...	mv.

Triturate well together.

A variation of this, containing sodium perborate as a bleaching agent, was given in the *C. & D.*, July 27, 1912, p. 150. (2) The charge for three 1-gr. opium pills in a N.I.A. prescription is $\frac{3}{4}$ d. for the ingredients and 3d. dispensing-fee. (3) MENTHOL-WATER.—The formula of the Bournemouth chemists, which is generally used for this, is as follows:

Menthol	...	...	gr. viij.
Alcohol (90-per-cent.)	...	...	3ij.
Distilled water	...	...	3xx.

Dissolve the menthol in the alcohol, add the solution to the water, shake well, and filter after twenty-four hours.

Sevareg (46/53).—PSORIASIS OINTMENT.—The sample you send, which you say is employed with good results in psoriasis and diseases of the scalp, contains tar and salicylic acid. The percentage of medicament is about 10 per cent. of tar and 5 per cent. of salicylic acid. Tar is one of the safest remedies for psoriasis, but it is an unnecessarily unpleasant mode of treatment where the disease is situated on the scalp. Salicylic-acid ointment or, as an alternative, the following lotion is best employed for the scalp:

Ac. salicylic.	...	...	...	3j.-3iv.
Ol. ricini	...	...	...	3ij.-5vj.
Ol. ros. geran.	...	...	...	mx.
Sp. vini rect. ad	...	...	...	5vj.

Shake a little on the hair by means of a sprinkler cork, or employ it as a spray, afterwards brushing well into the scalp.

J. R. (35/49).—LEMON CURD.—The following is Mr. Bousfield's recipe, which was given in the *C. & D.*, April 18, 1908, p. 611:

Take $\frac{1}{4}$ lb. butter, $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. moist sugar, and the juice of one lemon, also the essence out of the rind, and melt these three together in a double pan; then take off the fire and beat up two fresh eggs. Next, after the ingredients in the pan have cooled a little, put it back on the fire and add the eggs, with frequent stirring. When the curd ceases to run freely off the spoon and is just a little "tacky" it is ready, when it should be poured into suitable vessels, and you have "a dish fit for a king."

Rhei (40/67).—Paste should be used for sticking gold-paper labels on shop-rounds. Mucilage of acacia is unsuitable.

Vetos (38/28).—The best protection you can have for your proprietary veterinary preparation is to register a trade-mark for the preparation. The method of doing this is explained in *The Chemists' and Druggists' Diary*, p. 444.

H. R. (45/42).—METOL-QUINOL DEVELOPER.—The following recipes for one-solution developers are from "Pharmaceutical Formulas":

1.	2.
Metol ...	Metol ...
Quinol ...	Quinol ...
Sodium sulphite ...	Water ...
Sodium carbonate ...	Dissolve and add—
Potassium bromide ...	Sodium sulphite 150 grams
Water to ...	Potassium car-
Dissolve.	bonate ...
	For use, mix with an
	equal quantity of water.

M. E. G. (46/26).—LAWN-SAND.—See *C. & D.*, February 15, index folio 284.

E. & H. (46/39).—LECLANCHE'S CELL.—Referring to our reply in the *C. & D.*, March 15, index folio 436, we did not think it necessary to explain the formation of zinc oxychloride from zinc chloride; as that is such a familiar process in dispensing businesses. If you are going to use this form of battery, there is no way of preventing the formation of zinc chloride or subsequently of zinc oxychloride. It is the natural course of events that the component parts of the battery are used up.

Retrospect of Fifty Years Ago.

Reprinted from "The Chemist and Druggist," April 15, 1863.

Items of News.

Mr. Squire, the President of the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain, who has held during the present reign the appointment of Chemist on Her Majesty's Establishment, has recently received a similar appointment on the Household of His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales.

At the last meeting of the Manchester Philosophical Society, Dr. Joule described a new thermometer of such exquisite sensibility as to be capable of being affected by the heat radiated from the moon. It consists of a glass tube, closed at both ends, two feet in length by four inches in diameter, divided longitudinally by a blackened pasteboard diaphragm, extending to within an inch of the two ends. In the upper space so left, a piece of magnetised sewing-needle, furnished with an index, is suspended by a single filament of silk. It is evident that the slightest increase of temperature on one side will occasion an expansion of the air on that side, which will consequently ascend, and, after passing across and affecting the index, will descend on the other side.